THURSDAY
January 19, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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SC to hear Google plea against ₹1,337-cr. fine

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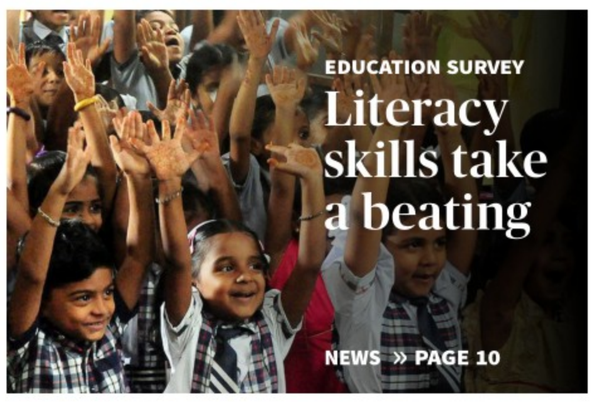

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Literacy skills take a beating

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CHANGE OF CAMP

Manpreet Badal quits Congress, joins BJP

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Admonishments that endanger the Constitution

Undermining the judiciary's importance

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BRILLIANT KNOCK

India rides on Gill's double ton to go 1-0

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NEARBY

Mahila Congress aspirants begin lobbying for ticket

BENGALURU
After the State-level 'Na Nayaki' convention of the Mahila Congress of the KPCC, nearly 36 women aspirants have begun lobbying seeking the ticket to contest the Legislative Assembly elections.

» PAGE 4

PM advised us to take Muslims into confidence: BSY

HASSAN
Former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa has said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi advised BJP leaders to make prompt efforts to take Muslims into confidence. » PAGE 4

Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland to vote in Feb.

Counting in all three States to be held on March 2; Election Commission also announces bypolls to six Assembly seats in five States and the Lakshadweep Lok Sabha seat on February 27

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) announced the election schedule for the Tripura, Nagaland and Meghalaya Assemblies on Wednesday. While polling will be held in Tripura on February 16, Nagaland and Meghalaya will vote on February 27.

The votes of the three elections will be counted on March 2.

The EC also announced the schedule for the byelections to six Assembly seats across five States and the byelection to the Lok Sabha constituency of Lakshadweep. All byelections will be held on February 27 and the results will be announced on March 2. The Assembly seats include Tamil Nadu's Erode East, West Bengal's Sagardighi and Maharashtra's Kasba Peth and Chinchwad.

While the BJP is in power in Tripura, the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) is the ruling party in Nagaland. The National People's Party (NPP), the only political party from the northeast that is recognised as a national party, runs the government in Meghalaya.

In Tripura, the BJP is fighting to retain control, while the Left with an electoral understanding with the Congress is hoping to make a comeback. This round of elections will test the Trinamool Congress, which has been working hard to spread its influence beyond West Bengal.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

Battle lines drawn

The States of Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland will go to the polls and byelections will be held in six Assembly constituencies and the Lakshadweep Lok Sabha constituency in February. Key dates:

State	Tripura	Meghalaya & Nagaland
Election day	February 16	February 27
Last date of nominations	January 30	February 7
Counting day	March 2	March 2

- The last date of nominations for the bypolls is February 7
- The counting day for the bypolls is March 2

Bypolls will be held in the following constituencies on February 27

State/U.T.	Constituency
Lakshadweep	Lakshadweep
Arunachal Pradesh	Lumla
Jharkhand	Ramgarh
Tamil Nadu	Erode (East)
West Bengal	Sagardighi
Maharashtra	Kasba Peth
Maharashtra	Chinchwad

Power point: Cut-outs of Chief Ministers and Opposition party leaders at the BRS meet in Khammam on Wednesday. ANI

Will end BJP 'misrule', says KCR at BRS meet

The Hindu Bureau
KHAMMAM

Bharat Rashtra Samiti (BRS) president and Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao said the party would strive to rid the country of BJP's "misrule" and usher in a pro-poor and farmer-centric regime.

Outlining the BRS agenda of becoming a force to reckon with in the national political arena, he said the BRS would work in tandem with progressive forces to defeat the BJP in the 2024 Lok Sabha election. He was addressing a mammoth gathering at the BRS's maiden public meeting in Khammam in Telangana on Wednesday.

It was attended by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal, Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann, Uttar Pradesh former CM Akhilesh Yadav, CPI general secretary D.Raja and CPI(M) State secretary Tammineni Veerabhadram, among others.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

Didn't suggest changing the name of T.N., says Governor

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Seeking to put an end to the controversy over his suggestion to use the word *Tamizhagam*, instead of Tamil Nadu, Governor R.N. Ravi on Wednesday clarified that he had referred to the word *Tamizhagam* while dwelling upon the age-old historical cultural connect between the Tamil people and Kashi.

"In those days, there was no Tamil Nadu. Hence, in a historical, cultural context, I referred to the word *Tamizhagam* as a more appropriate expression," Mr. Ravi said in a statement.

He had used the term at an event held to felicitate the volunteers of Kashi-Tamil Sangamam, a recently concluded celebration. "An interpretation or inference that it was a suggestion to change the name of Tamil Nadu is erroneous and far-fetched," he said.

Proposal to reduce age for consumption of liquor to 18 withdrawn

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In the light of objections raised by public and associations over the proposal to reduce the age limit for purchase and consumption of alcohol in the State from 21 years to 18 years, the State government on Wednesday withdrew the notification.

The government had on January 9 issued draft rules to amend the Karnataka Excise (General Conditions of Licenses) Rules, 1967, reducing the age limit for purchase and consumption of alcohol to 18 years.

The amendment was proposed to overcome an ambiguity in law. While Section 36 (1) of the Karnataka Excise Act, 1965, prohibited sale of liquor to persons under 18 years, Rule 10 (1) (e) of the Karnataka Excise (General Conditions of Licenses) Rules, 1967, prohibited the sale of liquor to persons below 21 years. The changes had been sought after a high-level committee set up to identify and eliminate redundant aspects of law suggested reduction of age to 18.

However, on Wednesday, Excise Commissioner J. Ravishankar issued a statement that after considering objections raised with respect to the draft rules lowering the age from 21 years to 18 years, the provision in the Karnataka Excise (General Conditions of Licenses) Rules, 1967, to substitute the words "18 years" for the words "21 years" had been withdrawn with immediate effect.

11-year-old boy flying kite electrocuted

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An 11-year-old boy died of electrocution when he came in contact with a high tension wire while flying a kite in Vishweshwaraiah Layout in Chamundinagar in R.T. Nagar on Monday.

The victim, Abubakar, was flying the kite at a park close to a multi-storey residential building. The kite got entangled with a high tension wire near the building. The boy climbed on to the terrace of the building, and while getting the kite, he came in contact with the wire, and collapsed with severe burns. Passers-by shifted him to Victoria hospital, where he succumbed the next day.

Abubakar is the youngest among three children. The complainant, Sultana, a single parent and domestic help, filed a complaint against the Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, and Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board officials accusing them of negligence leading to the boy's death.

In her complaint, Sultana said the high tension lines are dangerously close to the building. The BBMP is culpable since it allowed the building to come up, and Bescom officials should be booked for granting connection to the illegal structures, she alleged.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 2

SSLC timetable revised in view of Mahavir Jayanti

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board on Wednesday published a revised timetable for the SSLC examination with a minor change to accommodate the holiday on Mahavir Jayanti.

While the exam will be held from March 31 to April 15 as announced earlier, Mathematics and Sociology exams, which were scheduled to be held on April 4, will now be held on April 3.

Gopalakrishna H.N., director (exams), Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board, said the earlier timetable had been revised as April 4 is a government holiday.

The rest of the timetable remains the same.

Bescom proposes non-telescopic tariff structure

Jahnavi T. R.
BENAGLURU

Consumers who use less electricity could end up paying a lower amount per unit than what they are paying now if the Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) has its way.

The power utility has proposed introduction of "non-telescopic" tariff structure for consumers in the upcoming financial year of 2023-24. The tariff revision proposal, submitted to Karnataka Electricity Regulation Commission (KERC), suggests revision of tariff slabs (energy charges) from four to three for domestic consumers, which would lead to lower rate per unit for those who consume less electricity. However, Bescom has proposed hiking fixed charges across many categories.

Under non-telescopic tariff, consumers will be charged for all the units they consume uniformly on a single slab rate under which their consumption falls FILE PHOTO

Under "non-telescopic" tariff, consumers will be charged for all the units they consume uniformly on a single slab rate under which their consumption falls. Accordingly, Bescom has proposed three slabs: 0-50 units (₹3.6), 0-100 (₹5.4) and 0->100 units (₹7). Under the old structure, the slabs were categorised as: 0-50 units (₹4.15) 51-100 units (₹5.6) , 100-200 units (₹7.15) and above 200 units (₹8.2). The new structure is proposed with an intention to benefit all classes of society, especially the socio-economically weaker sections, said officials.

"Under simplification of tariff structure, we have asked for reduction of slabs. This will also ensure that the billing is not left to the discretion of meter readers, and consumers are not harassed," said Darshan J., CFO, and Director (Finance), Bescom. He said Time of Day tariff time periods have also been increased from four to six to benefit even the high-tension consumers. While there were peak hours, and off-peak hours before, now there is also a proposal to introduce normal hours under which a rebate of 75 paise would be given to consumers of that time period. HT consumers are now paying ₹6.60 per unit and the proposed rebate would lower it to ₹5.85. The energy charges will drop for HT consumers, while fixed charges and demand charges are proposed to be hiked, according to sources in Bescom.

RELATED REPORT » PAGE 2

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Gill becomes fastest Indian to complete 1,000 ODI runs

19 The number of innings Shubman Gill took to complete 1,000 runs in the ODIs making him the fastest Indian to reach the mark, surpassing Virat Kohli and Shikhar Dhawan. The 23-year-old achieved this feat in the first ODI against New Zealand. Mr. Gill also became the joint second-fastest to 1,000 runs in terms of innings alongside Pakistan's Imam Ul Haq. PTI

U.K. inflation eases for the second straight month in December

10.5 In percentage, the ease in U.K.'s inflation in December for the second straight month, boosting confidence that the cost-of-living crisis has peaked. Inflation peaked at a 41-year high of 11.1% in October. But, inflation is still running at levels last seen in the early 1980s. U.K. prices are also rising faster than any other major industrialised nation. PTI

Car service firm GoMechanic admits to inflating revenues

70 The percentage of the 1,000-odd workforce that will be laid off by automobile after-sales service startup GoMechanic as co-founder Amit Bhasin admitted to errors in financial reporting. Nearly two years after it raised a mammoth $42 million in funding, it emerged that GoMechanic cooked its financial books by inflating revenues. PTI

Helicopter crash in Kyiv; Interior Minister among those killed

16 The number of people killed, including Ukraine's Interior Minister and two children, when a helicopter crashed near a kindergarten outside Kyiv. Among the dead are Interior Minister Denys Monastyrsky and his first deputy Minister, Yevgeniy Yenin. The crash came on the heels of a tragedy that saw 45 people die due to a Russian missile strike in Dnipro. AFP

Adani to use share sale proceeds for capital expenditure

200 In ₹ billion, the proceeds Adani Enterprises will use for capital expenditure requirements and to pay off some debt of its units from India's biggest follow-on public offering (FPO) beginning on January 27. The fund raise comes as the conglomerate is aggressively expanding. Reuters

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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The conflict behind eco-sensitive zones

What mandate does the Forest Rights Act give gram sabhas? What is the difference between reserve forests, protected areas, community forest resource and ecologically sensitive zones? What were the problems with the implementation of ESZs? Why were there protests in Kerala against ESZs?

EXPLAINER

C.R. Bijoy

The story so far:

Ecologically sensitive zones (ESZ) are intended to safeguard 'protected areas' – national parks and wildlife sanctuaries – by transitioning from an area of lower protection to an area of higher protection. However, the creation of these zones has provoked protests in Kerala and some other regions, in a precursor to what is likely to emerge in other parts of the country.

What are protected areas?

Protected areas cover 5.26% of India's land area as 108 national parks and 564 wildlife sanctuaries. They are notified under the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972. Protected areas do away with even those activities permitted in 'reserve forests', where the rights of forest-dependent communities – those residing on and/or accessing forest land – are extinguished, unless specifically allowed.

However, this rights-negating 'fortress conservation model', has come under repeated criticism from conservation scientists, bringing in the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 which is also known as the Forest Rights Act (FRA). FRA recognises the customary and traditional rights (both individual and collective) of forest-dwellers on forest land, including in protected areas.

How is the FRA being implemented?

By bringing in the FRA, lawmakers were trying to undo a historic injustice done to the forest dwelling community of India. The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) reckoned in 2009 itself that doing so would mean handing over at least four lakh sq. km – more than half of India's notified forest area – to village-level institutions. But as of June 2022, only 64,873.70 sq. km – or 16% – has come under the FRA. (The actual area is likely smaller as some areas have been counted multiple times for different rights.)

However, this has been achieved in only a decade and a half, compared to no improvements in the six decades before. This is attributed to the gram sabhas which took over the power to determine rights through open democratic process from government officials. These gram sabhas are now the statutory authorities empowered to conserve, protect and manage forests, wildlife and biodiversity lying within the traditional village boundaries. These areas under gram sabhas are to be a new category of forests called 'community forest resource' (CFR). Gram sabhas have to integrate their CFR conservation and management plan into the 'working plan' of the Forest Department, with the required modifications.

What are ESZs?

Surrounding protected areas is a region of more than 1,11,000 sq. km – or 3.4% percent of the country's land – which falls under the ESZ regime. Governments have notified 341 ESZs in 29 States and five Union territories, while another 85 ESZs are awaiting notification. Together, protected areas and ESZs cover 8.66% of India's land area.

The ESZs span notified forests outside protected areas, most of which could also come under gram sabhas' jurisdiction under the FRA. The extent of ESZs from the boundary of a protected area ranges from 0 to as much as 45.82 km (in Pin Valley National Park, Himachal Pradesh). Fifteen States have ESZs exceeding 10 km.

Extra protection: Amboori and Kallikkad Panchayat residents demanding the exemption of the Panchayats from the proposed ESZ zone, in Thiruvananthapuram in May, 2022. MAHINSHA.S

What is the problem?

Significantly, parts of the ESZs in ten States – Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Telangana – fall within the Scheduled Areas notified under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution. Such Scheduled Areas cover over 11% of the country's land area and are thickly forested and mountainous. They are preponderantly populated by Scheduled Tribe groups and are notified by the President under Article 244 where the Provisions of the Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA) 1996 apply. The PESA recognises habitation-level gram sabhas to be competent to safeguard and preserve community resources on forest and revenue lands in Scheduled Areas.

However, the MoEFCC has shown no inclination to amend the Indian Forest Act 1927, the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 (under which ESZs are notified) to comply with the PESA and FRA. In fact, in the Forest Conservation Rules, compliance with the FRA, recognition of forest rights and the gram sabha's consent were preconditions for considering proposals to divert forest land for non-forestry purposes – until the MoEFCC did away with them in 2022. The Ministry has also overlooked demands by the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes to restore the erstwhile FRA compliance procedure.

How exactly were the ESZs implemented?

The 2002 Wildlife Conservation Strategy envisaged lands within 10 km of the boundaries of protected areas to be notified as ecologically fragile zones under Section 3(2)(v) of the Environment Protection Act 1986 and its Rules 5(viii) and (x). The MoEFCC was to take steps to protect the environment by regulating and (if required) prohibiting industries, operations and processes. Rule 5(1)(vi) provided for environmentally compatible land-use in areas around protected areas.

In 2005, the National Board for Wildlife decided to delineate site-specific ESZs to regulate specific activities instead of prohibiting them. Therefore, in May 2005, the MoEFCC asked the States and UTs to propose ESZs.

The MoEFCC guidelines for ESZs stated that based on the forest rangers' inventory of land-use and wildlife corridors within 10 km of each protected area, a committee consisting of the Wildlife Warden, an ecologist, and an official from the local government was to determine the extent of each ESZ, the nature of environmental concerns to be addressed and ways to address them. The Chief Wildlife Warden was to then list the activities that were to be prohibited, to be restricted with safeguards and to be permitted.

After this process, the State government would submit this list, the geographical description of the area and the biodiversity values, the rights and entitlements of local communities, and their economic potential and implications for their livelihoods, as a proposal to the MoEFCC for notification. The guidelines also outlined a general indicative list of activities to be prohibited, regulated or permitted and information to be incorporated in the proposal.

Within two years of notification, the State government is required to draft a Zonal Master Plan for each ESZ in consultation with a number of departments. However, there has been no information to the public on a Zonal Master Plan since 2012, when ESZs first began to be notified.

Additionally, to monitor compliance with the various provisions of each notification, a State had to set up a monitoring committee for each ESZ. The committee is required to report the actions taken, to the Chief Wildlife Warden every year.

Unfortunately, the institutional mechanisms and procedures prescribed in the guidelines and the ESZ notifications disregarded many legal facts and statutory requirements. They set aside the habitation-level gram sabhas in Scheduled Area and CFR forests and the Panchayat-raj institutions entrusted with soil conservation, water management, social forestry, etc., even though those activities fall squarely within the scope of ESZs. In effect, what ought to have been a location, community and ecology specific plan, arrived at through people's informed participation, became a 'one size fits all' notification.

What has led to the protests?

On June 3, 2022, the Supreme Court gave further directions on ESZs. First, the Court said that the MoEFCC guidelines are also to be implemented in the area proposed in the draft notification awaiting finalisation and within a 10-km radius of yet-to-be-proposed protected areas. The Court also allowed States to increase or decrease the minimum width of ESZs. Secondly, the Court vested the powers to ensure compliance with the guidelines with the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) and the Home Secretary of the State/UT. The PCCF was to make a list of all structures within the ESZs and report it to the Supreme Court within three months (this is yet to be done). The Court also ordered that no new permanent structure could come up for any purpose within an ESZ.

This effectively meant that all the activities permitted by the guidelines and which are already being carried out can continue only if the PCCF grants permission, and that too within six months of the court's order. This period has already expired. Additionally, the Court's directions have put the lives of many people in the hands of the PCCF – whose authority now extends beyond the forest to revenue lands falling within an ESZ. This has led to protests in Kerala.

The new structures that are banned could include electric poles, buildings, walls, roads and bridges. Millions of forest-dwellers living on forest land and on the fringes of forests are the most affected. After having been denied forest rights, they are now also denied better public infrastructure. The government and the judiciary need to reconcile laws, reaffirm democratic governance, and protect the environment and as well as livelihoods.

C.R. Bijoy examines resource conflicts and governance issues.

THE GIST

- Ecologically sensitive zones (ESZ) are intended to safeguard 'protected areas' — national parks and wildlife sanctuaries — by transitioning from an area of lower protection to an area of higher protection.
- However, this 'fortress conservation model', has come under repeated criticism from conservation scientists, bringing in the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 which is also known as the Forest Rights Act (FRA). FRA recognises the customary and traditional rights (both individual and collective) of forest-dwellers on forest land, including in protected areas.
- However, the ESZs span notified forests outside protected areas, most of which could also come under gram sabhas' jurisdiction under the FRA. The extent of ESZs from the boundary of a protected area ranges from 0 to as much as 45.82 km (in Pin Valley National Park, Himachal Pradesh).

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INBRIEF

Coaches augmented on permanent basis

The East Central Railway has decided to augment one pantry car on a permanent basis to the following trains. According to a release from South Western Railway, Train No. 22353 Patna - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru Humsafar weekly superfast express originating from Patna will be permanently augmented with one pantry car with effect from January 19. Train No. 22354 Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Patna Humsafar weekly superfast express originating from Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal, Bengaluru will be permanently augmented with one pantry car with effect from January 22, the release stated.

Bengaluru to host machine tools expo IMTEX from today

The Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association (IMTMA) will organise IMTEX 2023, Tooltech 2023, and Digital Manufacturing 2023, between January 19 and 25 at Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC). Close to 1,000 exhibitors from 23 countries are expected to participate at the 20th edition IMTEX. Germany, Korea, Spain, Taiwan, and the U.S would have country pavilions at the expo.

Annual convocation of Alliance University held

Alliance University (AU), hosted its annual convocation ceremony at the university's Central Campus in Anekal, Bengaluru, recently. The convocation saw the graduation of 2,445 students of whom 1,615 received degrees, 830 received diplomas, and 14 received doctoral degrees. Medals and merit certificates were awarded to 161 rank-holders. Higher Education Minister C.N. Ashwath Narayan, who delivered the keynote address, urged the graduates to use their education for the betterment of society. Justice S.R. Bannurmath, chairman of the Karnataka Law Commission, and Harshit Singhal, Managing Director of HashedIn by Deloitte, were the guests of honor at the convocation.

Text & Context

A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (January 19, Thursday), the following explainer is available:

- Why has the creation of eco-sensitive zones provoked protests? **bit.ly/ecosensitivezones**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access this article. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

From Page One

11-year-old boy flying kite electrocuted

Based on the complaint, the R.T. Nagar police registered an FIR against the officials of KPTCL, BBMP, and Bescom, charging them for causing death due to negligence. However, Bescom on Wednesday issued a clarification that the boy was severely injured after he came in contact with a 66 KW wire of KPTCL, and that negligence of Bescom was not the reason for the accident. KPTCL officials were not available for comment.

Bescom proposes hike in fixed charges in tariff revision proposal

For domestic consumers, the fixed charges for the first kW is proposed to be increased from ₹100 to ₹150 and for every additional kW after up to 50 kW, it would be from ₹110 to ₹300

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

Bescom officials say that they have proposed more fixed charges for HT consumers to ensure that the charges are equally distributed among all consumers. FILE PHOTO

The Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) has proposed a massive increase in fixed charges in its tariff revision petition submitted to the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) for the upcoming year.

For LT 2 (a) (I) or domestic consumers, the fixed charges for the first kW is proposed to be increased from ₹100 to ₹150 and for every additional kW after up to 50 kW, the hike would be from ₹110 to ₹300. Bescom has asked for a huge hike for every kW after 50 kW (from ₹175 to ₹450), according to a notification.

While energy charges have been proposed to be reduced, a hike in fixed charges is necessary due to increased purchasing cost of power, according to senior officials. The hike will be applicable to consumers of both Low Tension (LT) and High Tension (HT) consumption.

Recently, trade bodies like Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI) and Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association (KASSIA) had mentioned that the proposed increase in electricity tariff would hurt many businesses which come under the HT category, especially if fixed charges are increased.

However, Bescom officials said that they have proposed for more fixed charges for HT consumers to ensure that the charges are equally distributed among all consumers. "Many HT consumers go for open access connections and hence, other users of Bescom are burdened with additional charges. To lessen this burden on others, this has been asked for," said an official.

Fixed charge increase has also been proposed for Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (streetlights), while no changes have been asked for with regard to Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd.. "These are nominal costs and will not reflect too much on the bills," said a source in Bescom.

Existing telescopic tariff structure

Consumption	Rate (Per unit in ₹)
0 - 50	4.15
51 - 100	5.60
101 - 200	7.15
200 and above	8.20

For domestic consumers or LT 2 (a)(I)

Proposed non-telescopic tariff structure

Consumption	Rate (Per unit in ₹)
0 – 50	3.6
0 - 100	5.4
0 - >100	7.0

For domestic consumers or LT 2 (a)(I)

HC quashes bribery case against Devaraj Urs educational trust

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has quashed the corruption proceedings initiated against Kolar-based Devaraj Urs Educational Trust for Backward Classes and its secretary-cum-founder trustee G.H. Nagaraja for allegedly bribing members of the inspection committee of the Medical Council of India to recommend increase in intake of various courses in its medical college during 2016.

The CBI had in September, 2017, registered the First Information Report (FIR) against five individuals and the trust based on the input received from the Income Tax (I-T) Department that the trust had allegedly bribed public servants and members of the inspection pane. The I-T Department, which had searched the premises of the trust and the medical college, had said that it found certain notes written on notepads indicating cash and gifts were given to the members of the committee.

Trust's founder and former Union Minister R.L. Jalappa, who died in December 2021, was also arraigned as an accused in the FIR. However, the CBI in January 2019, filed a "B" report stating that the there is no evidence to establish the allegations levelled against any of the accused. However, the Special Court for CBI cases in July 2019 rejected the "B" report and directed the CBI to further probe.

The CBI in March 2021 filed another "B" report with the same view that no evidence was found to establish the charges levelled in the FIR. However, the Special Court for CBI cases in October 2021 again rejected the second "B" report by the CBI and took cognisance of offence against all the accused under the provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, and the IPC.

'Futile exercise'

Justice M. Nagaprasanna, before whom the petition came up for hearing recently, said continuing the criminal proceeding against the Trust and its secretary would be a futile exercise as the High Court had quashed the proceedings against two professors, who were working in medical colleges in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh and were part of the inspection committee, named as accused in the FIR.

Man who suffered head injury in U.S. recovers with neuro-rehabilitation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Maheshwarappa B.M. (left), senior consultant for neuro-rehabilitation at Sakra World Hospital, with Pravin Raj Radha and his wife at a press conference in Bengaluru on Wednesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

When 36-year-old Pravin Raj Radha, hailing from Krishnagiri, met with an accident in Charlotte, North Carolina, U.S., after he fell from his bicycle in May 2022, little did his family in India know that he would end up in comatose condition.

Following the fall, he suffered severe brain, facial, and eye injuries. Although he was rushed to a top hospital in the U.S. and underwent intensive care, the doctors had estimated less than 1% chance of his survival.

Despite being on a ventilator in the ICU for nearly four weeks, the patient's health did not improve. He was flown to India in a chartered air ambulance that was sent by the U.S. hospital.

He was referred to Maheshwarappa B.M., Head and senior consultant for neuro-rehabilitation at Sakra World Hospital, where he was put through a rigorous and comprehensive neuro-rehabilitation. This led to his recovery and successful discharge from the hospital after five months.

Mr. Pravin shared his story of getting a new lease of life at a press conference on Wednesday in the presence of the hospital's administrative Heads Yuchi Nagao, Naoya Matsumi, and Lovekesh Phasu, apart from Dr. Maheshwarappa.

"Neuro-rehabilitation plays a significant role in the healing process of those who have suffered traumatic brain injuries. The rehab program is designed based on the patient's condition and needs to help them recover from the arduous effects of the injury," Dr. Maheshwarappa explained.

His wife Kavitha said the accident shocked the family but what was even worse was when doctors in the U.S. had started giving up hope of his revival. "He has made significant progress and is currently able to understand, speak, and communicate. His cognitive functions are improving except for mild memory impairment. To prepare him for his return to his profession, specialists are working on advanced life skills training," she said.

Asked about the expenses, she said the family spent nearly ₹25 lakh on the five-month treatment.

E- Tender Notice

SAI

Sports Authority of India, NSSC, Bangalore invites e-tender for following works:-

1. SAI/NSSC/ENGG/NIT-6/2022-23 for Repairing of Existing Ramp behind the Multipurpose Hall at SAI, NSSC, Bangalore.

For more details please visit E-tender website
http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.
http://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in &
http://www.saisouth-bangalore.com.

The Last date of Submission of E-tender is 24.01.2023 up to 16.00 hrs.

Sd/-, Regional Director I/C

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my client has agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its Owners: **Sri.R.Achutha Rao** S/o Late Ramachandra Rao and his children and grand children **Sri.Ramesh.A.Rao, Sri.Ananth.A, Master Advaith.R, Kum.Shaarvari.A**, all are residing at "Mahadi Subbamma's House", Palegar Street, Anekal Town, Bangalore Urban District- 562 106.

Apart from the said Owners, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title, interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the Schedule property by the aforesaid Owners, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within **14 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my client.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Agricultural dry land measuring 03 Acres 35 Guntas and 04 Guntas of Kharab land in Sy.No.84/1, situated at Nosenuru Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and bounded on:

East by : Lake bed/Sy.No.81;
West by : Land bearing Sy.Nos.86 and 87;
North by : Property bearing Sy.No.85; and
South by : Property bearing Sy.No.84/2.

Sd/- Goutam Chand S.F
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004

Man killed as BMTC bus knocks down his scooter

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 32-year-old businessman was killed when a BMTC bus knocked his scooter down at Sumanahalli junction on Wednesday.

Kuldeep Bagrecha, a native of Rajasthan settled in Sunkadakatte, was heading home when the bus heading in the same direction knocked him down while taking a right turn at the junction. A senior police officer said driver Anandvelu veered to the right rashly and failed to notice Kuldeep.

Driver arrested for murdering man who harassed his sister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kengeri police arrested a goods vehicle driver for allegedly murdering a man who was harassing his sister even after they broke up. The deceased has been identified as Satish, who worked as a contract labourer, while the accused Venkatesh has been arrested and remanded in judicial custody.

According to the police, Satish was having an affair with Venkatesh's sister for the last three years and the duo broke up over a fight. However, Satish used to come to her house and harass her to patch up. Unable to bear harassment, she complained to Venkatesh. Enraged, Venkatesh took Satish to an isolated place on NICE Road on the pretext of talking and warned him to stay away. A heated argument ensued between them and in the melee, Venkatesh stabbed Satish using an umbrella multiple times and later slit his throat using a knife, the police said.

The accused later dumped the body under the bushes and escaped.

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. website : www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-44/17931/2022-23 Date: 18.01.2023

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK e – Procurement Portal Only)

Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the works mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors holding valid Class-I (Civil) issued from KPWD, Government of Karnataka who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work of **(1)** Establishment of Plug & Play Infrastructure in Plot No.41, AM-1, Kanagala Industrial Area, Hukkeri Taluk, Belagavi District. **(2nd Call)** **(2)** Establishment of Plug & Play Infrastructure in Plot No.AM-02, Apparel Park Industrial Area, Phase-1, Mini Textile Park, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. **(2nd Call)**

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **30.01.2023 upto 04:30 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/4561/Zen/2022-23

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its Owner: **M/s NIRANJAN INDUSTRIES, represented by its Partners: Sri.C.JAYARAM** S/o late Changalraya Achari, **Sri.J.SRINIVAS** S/o Sri.C.Jayaram and **Sri.J.VIJAY KUMAR** S/o Sri.C.Jayaram, all are residing at: No.103/21, 3rd Main Road, Tata Silk Farm, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004.

Apart from the said Owner, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title and or interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the Schedule Property by the aforesaid Owner, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property popularly known as **"KSHEMA MULTISPECIALTY HOSPITAL"** bearing **BBMP Khatha No.16/1, 17 & 18/2 (Sarakki Panchayti Khatha No.352/2),** measuring East to West 70ft and North to South 40ft, with a building thereon comprised of Basement, Ground and five upper floors, situated at Sarakki Kere Main Road, Bengaluru and bounded on:

East by : Private land
West by : Main Road
North by : Site No.2
South by : Site No.4

Sd/- Goutam Chand S.F
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004

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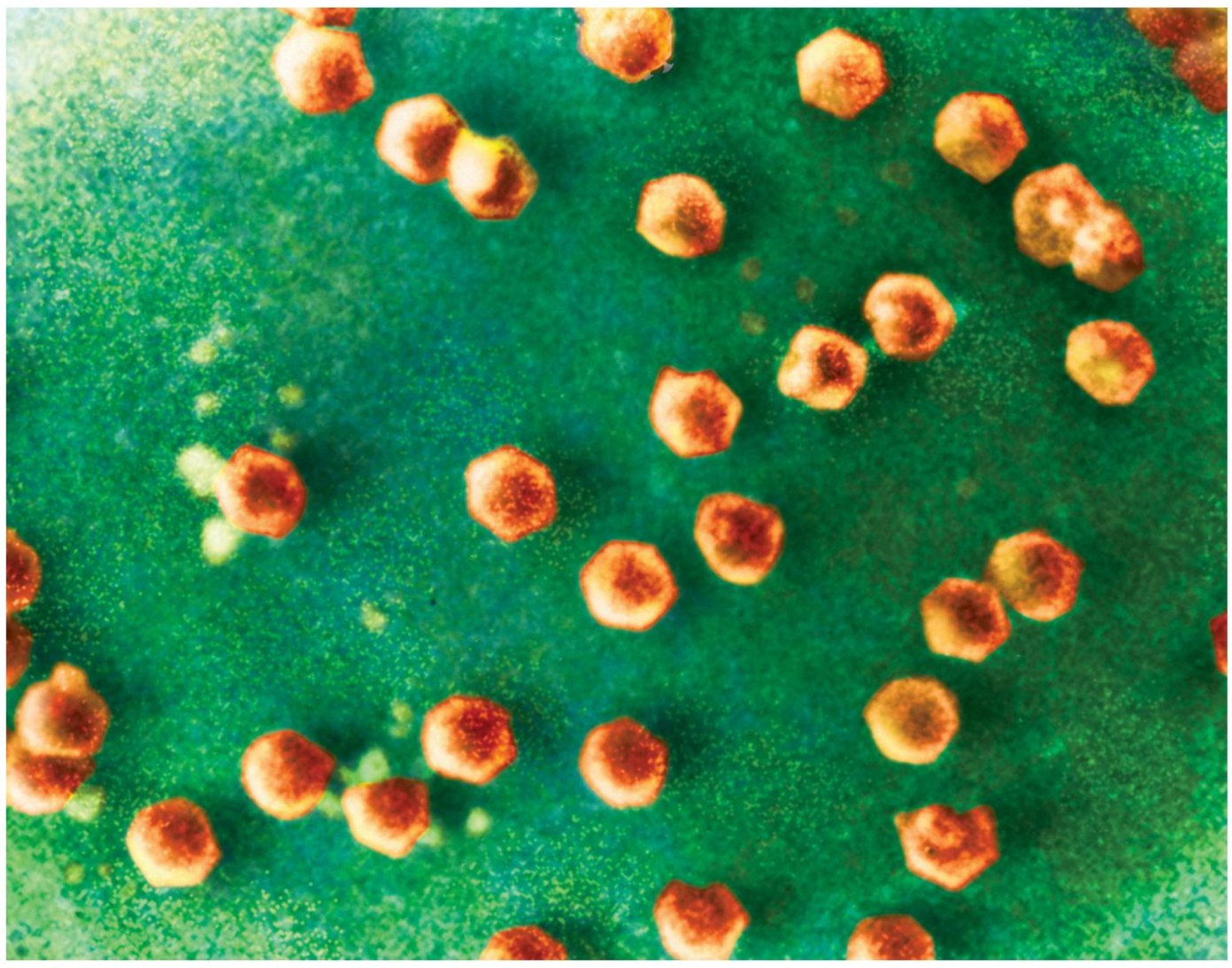
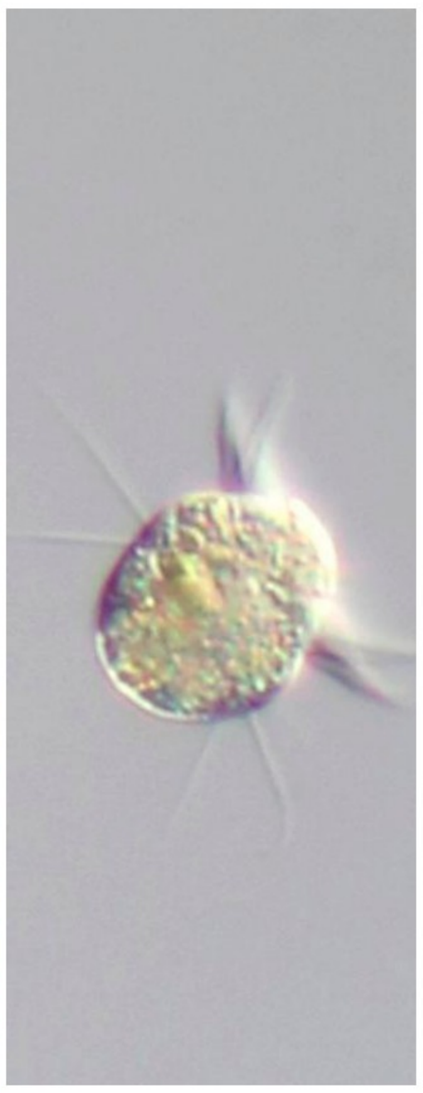
ABSTRACT





A zoomed in image of Chlorovirus; Halteria. KIT LEE AND ANGIE FOX/UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN; CC BY 2.0

Viral nutrition: new study reveals microbes nourished by consuming viruses

Researchers at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln have reported that a particular genus of plankton, namely Halteria, can 'grow and divide given only viruses to eat'. This could be significant for the marine food chain

Vasudevan Mukunth

John P. DeLong, James L. Van, Zeina Al-Ameeli, Irina V. Agarkova and David D. Dunigan, 'The consumption of viruses returns energy to food chains', Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, December 27, 2022. https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.221500012

At various peaks of the COVID-19 pandemic, viruses have had a reputation as destroyers of public health systems and human lives. They have a peculiar biology – while inert outside a living body inside, they hijack the cellular machinery to feed, replicate and spread. This association with disease and death has come to define their form in the public imagination, redeemed not even by the fact that there are other microbes that destroy viruses. But a new study, published on December 27 by researchers at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, offers to upend this.

The authors of the study have reported that a particular genus of plankton can consume viruses as well as "grow and divide given only viruses to eat". We already know of other cells that can 'consume' viruses in an effort to destroy them – such as the macrophage cells of the human immune system.

The difference lies in being able to 'eat' viruses to fulfil one's biological imperatives.

Plankton of the genus Halteria, they claim to have found, can each consume 10,000 to a million virus particles a day, increase their population using the metabolised energy, and provide more food for the zooplanktons that consume the Halteria. This could be significant for the marine food chain.

What are plankton?

Plankton are microscopic organisms that can only move with a current. They don't have any facilities to actively propel themselves. Halteria plankton are ciliates, meaning they have hair-like structures called cilia on their surface. Sometimes they can beat some of these cilia to jump short distances, but not often as it requires too much energy.

A type of plankton – the phytoplankton – is found nearer the surface of many water bodies. It is an autotroph, which means it can make its own food by consuming carbon dioxide, among other compounds, through photosynthesis. Small fish and larger plankton called zooplankton eat phytoplankton for their nutrition; they are in turn eaten by larger fish, and so forth.

When phytoplankton die, they drift around where they are, becoming part of a coastal nutrient cycle, or they drift down towards the seafloor, where they decompose. Their constituents then become available for microbes or are sequestered into the seafloor.

So, phytoplankton bring carbon and other nutrients from the atmosphere and sea surface down to the seafloor and help replenish the food chain (and also 'trap' carbon into their own bodies and as sediments). They are joined by bacteria that make their own food by oxidising sulphur, iron or hydrogen, in a process called chemosynthesis.

The role of Halteria

Halteria plankton are found in large numbers in freshwater bodies. They are heterotrophs meaning they can't produce their own food. Instead, they are well-known bacterivores – they consume bacteria to power themselves.

In the words of a noted 1999 paper, viruses "short-circuit" the process of nutrients moving up the food chain. They infect and kill both bacteria and plankton, releasing organic matter that dissolves in the water. Note that scientists have modelled this 'viral shunt' and studied it in the lab; investigations of its real-world impact are ongoing.

In the new study's paper, the authors wrote that by also consuming viruses for nutrition, Halteria plankton can recover the nutrients lost in the viral shunt and bring them back into the food chain. "This flow would depend on virion size and nutritional content, which varies among strains," they added, "but it is already clear that viruses of a wide range of sizes can be taken up".

Redemption for viruses?

Viruses are the single-most populous life-form on Earth; their cumulative biomass outweighs that of humans by a factor of 1010. In 2020, Curtis Suttle, a co-author of the 1999 paper, called them "fantastic nutritional sources".

The finding wasn't unexpected. In 2020, a group from the U.S. and Spain published a paper after 10 years of data-taking and study, positing that some protists (eukaryotes that aren't plants, animals or fungi; eukaryotes are organisms whose cells have nuclei) might be munching on viruses. They wrote that their findings "indicate that the viral shunt is complemented by a viral link in the marine microbial food web".

There have been papers discussing this link since at least 1992.

In the new study, the researchers found that Halteria plankton reduced the population of chloroviruses 'fed' to them while growing their own numbers – whereas Paramecium ciliates consumed the chloroviruses but didn't proliferate. That is, to quote from their paper, "not all ciliates can grow on chloroviruses in these conditions, even when they consume them".

Second, as the population of viruses and Halteria changed over the course of their interaction (in the lab), the researchers used a modelling tool to understand if they fit what we already know about predator-prey interactions in the wild.

The model indicated that they did, but John DeLong, a biologist and the lead researcher, said in a press release: "Now, we have to go find out if this is true in nature." DeLong et al. also wrote that they don't yet know how Halteria feeding on viruses could have affected viral evolution.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

New demographic data in China showed that the country had more deaths than births last year. Here is a quiz on demographics in India's most populated neighbour

Srinivasan Ramani

QUESTION 1
Which province (equivalent to the State in India) has the highest population in China?

QUESTION 2
Which province, which is not an "autonomous region", has the lowest population in China?

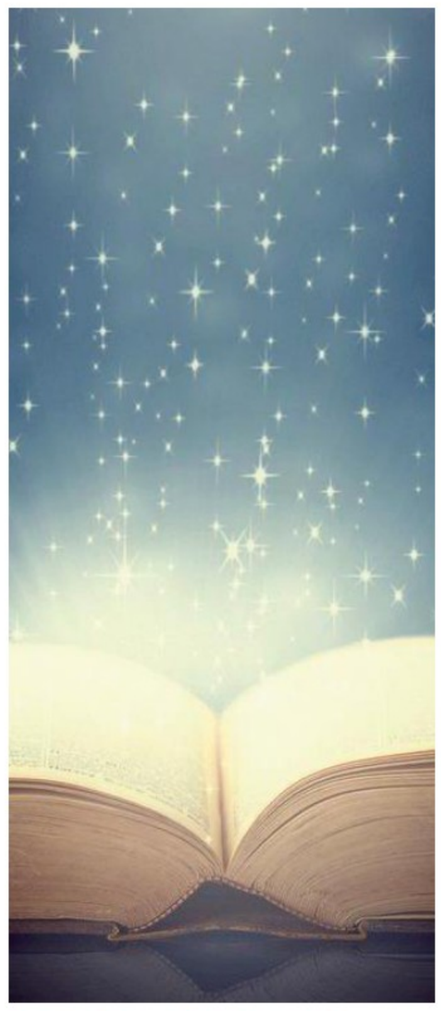
QUESTION 3
One of the more culturally and linguistically diverse provinces in China, this province also holds the distinction of hosting the highest proportion of Buddhists in the country. Name the province.

QUESTION 4
While the capital city, Beijing, has the second highest population of all cities in China, which city holds the distinction of having the highest?

QUESTION 5
While more than 91% of China's demography identify themselves as "Han Chinese" — which is also the world's largest ethnic group by population — this group constituting 1.39% of the population is the largest ethnic minority in the country. Name this Tai-speaking group that is not very divergent from the Han Chinese ethnically.

Visual question:
This is the photo of a hunter belonging to which minority ethnic group in China? WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This Kipling poem set in colonial Burma was later sung by this famous American singer and actor. **Ans: Mandalay; Frank Sinatra**
2. In 2002, this collection of stories featured on a series of U.K. postage stamps. **Ans: Just So Stories**
3. In 2012, this species was named after Rudyard Kipling. **Ans: Crocodile; Goniopholis kiplingi**
4. Learoyd, Mulvaney, and Ortheris are the characters from this Kipling story published in this book. **Ans: The Three Musketeers, *Plain Tales from the Hills***
5. This is the title of a semi-autobiographical short story by Rudyard Kipling, published in 1888. **Ans: *Baa Baa, Black Sheep***
Visual: Identify these famous characters from this book which was set in this place in Madhya Pradesh. **Ans: Mowgli, Baloo; *The Jungle Book*; Seonee**
Early Birds: Gayatri Deepthi| Prakriti Roy



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

"Mr. Cheru Thomas of Trivandrum wants to know who is a (a) first cousin, (b) second cousin."

"The child of your uncle or aunt is your first cousin. The child of your parent's first cousin is your second cousin."

"Mr. Karajgikar Laxman of Hyderabad wants to know the meaning of the word 'wonder' in 'I wonder if you could grant me a day off.'"

"Generally 'to wonder' is 'to be affected with wonder, to marvel'. We wonder at what is odd, unusual. In certain contexts it is used in the sense of 'wish to know, be curious about, think about'. 'I wonder where she bought her dress' means I am curious to know where she bought her dress.

I wonder what time it is.

'I wonder if you could grant me a day off' means that I would like to know whether I could have a day off. This is a polite way of trying to find out the view of another. There is a certain hesitancy, a certain tentativeness about the word 'wonder' when you use it in the sense of 'wish to know, be curious about'. I wonder whether I have made myself clear."

"Mr. V. R. Ramaswamy of Gobichettipalayam wants to know how to use 'former' and 'ex-'."

"These two mean the same thing. But there is a slight difference in usage.

Mr. M. Karunanidhi is the ex-Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam is a former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

When Mr. N. T. Rama Rao took office as Chief Minister of AP, Mr. Vijayabhaskar Reddy became ex-Chief Minister. Mr. B. Venkatram and Mr. T. Anjaiah are former Chief Ministers. If a man married five times, he can refer only to his fourth wife as ex-wife. The other four are his former wives."

"Mr. V. M. G. K. Menon of Ponani wants to know how to use 'late' before the name of a deceased person."

" 'Late' is used in the sense of a 'specified person no longer alive, especially comparatively recently deceased'.

The late General A. S. Vaidya.

Her late husband was an eminent surgeon.

It is alway 'the late X', X being the name of the person."

Word of the day

Preponderant:
having superior power and influence

Synonyms: overriding, paramount, predominant

Usage: *He holds a preponderant influence on the board.*

Pronunciation:
bit.ly/preponderantpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /prɪˈpɒnd(ə)rənt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

THURSDAY
January 19, 2023

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ICOTY
INDIAN CAR OF THE YEAR 2023

Kia Carens, Winner
Indian Car Of The Year 2023

Movement that inspires

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INNOCEAN-009/23

Enrolment in schools improves, but learning level drops: ASER 2022

Survey data collected from 990 villages in 30 districts; a total of 17,184 households and 31,854 children in the age group of 3 to 16 surveyed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

At a time when the enrolment in schools has improved, the reading level of students has further dropped in the State, according to the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2022.

Key findings of the report for Karnataka rural stated that closure of schools during the pandemic did not impact enrolment of students in the State. The enrolment figures jumped from 99.3% in 2018 to 99.8% in 2022. When it came to government-run schools, in the category of students of age 6 to 14, enrolment jumped from 69.9% to 72.6% during the same period. In another positive development, the proportion of girls who were not enrolled dropped from 1.2% in 2018 to 0.4%.

In the pre-primary age group, enrolment of children of 3 and 4 years jumped by more than 6% and 12% respectively.

According to a release, the survey data was collected from 990 villages in 30 districts. A total of 17,184 households and 31,854 children in the age group of 3 to 16 were surveyed. The report states that the percentage of children in class 3 in government and private schools, who can read class 2 level, dropped from 19.3% in 2018 to 8.6% in 2022. The decline is visible in both government and private schools. Performance of girls (9.6%) in reading level was better than boys (7.5%).

In the category of class 5, students who could read class 2 level text dropped from 46.21% to 30.2% in the same period. When it came to class 8, percentage of students able to read class 2 textbooks dropped from 70.5% to 59.9 % .

In the arithmetic test, conducted for students of class 3, revealed that ability to do the subtraction dropped from 26.4% to 22.2%. The ability to do division among students of class 5 dropped from 20.5% to 13.3 %.

In the assessment of English reading ability - to read capital letters, small letters, simple three-letter words, and short essays - Karnataka students performed better than the national average.

Nationally, the proportion of children in classes 1 to 8 taking paid private tuition classes increased from 26.4% in 2018 to 30.5% in 2022, but in Karnataka it decreased from 11.3% in 2018 to 9.2% in 2022.

Commenting on the findings of the report, Vishal R., Commissioner for the Department of Public Instruction, said: "Using our master data, we followed up on enrolment at each school level. The measures were taken to enrol students by looking at granular details at the school level. This helped in improving enrolment. On learning ability, because of the pandemic which resulted in the closure of schools, there was a fall in learning skills. To improve learning skills, the government implemented Kalika Chetarike. Without Kalika Chetarike, learning ability would have further dropped. However, we agree that there is more room for improvement. We will continue with our efforts to improve learning skills among children."

Learning curve

Enrolment figures jumped from 99.3% in 2018 to 99.8% in 2022

In the category of students of age 6 to 14 in government-run schools, enrolment jumped from 69.9% to 72.6% during the same period

Proportion of girls who were not enrolled dropped from 1.2% in 2018 to 0.4%

Reading level

- Percentage of children in class 3, who can read class 2 level, dropped from 19.3% in 2018 to 8.6% in 2022
- In class 5, percentage of students who can read class 2 level text dropped from 46.21% to 30.2% in the same period
- In class 8, percentage of students who can read class 2 textbooks dropped from 70.5% to 59.9%
- In arithmetic test, ability of students of class 3 to do subtraction dropped from 26.4% to 22.2%
- In English reading, Karnataka students performed better than the national average

Man held for stabbing college student to death

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Rajanukunte police on Wednesday arrested a 32-year-old man for allegedly stabbing a college student to death for refusing his marriage proposal.

Madhuchandra, native of Ananthapura and a goods van driver, stabbed Rashi, 19, resident of Shanabhoganahalli and BA student at a private college in Yelahanka. According to the police, Rashi also worked at a guava farm with her mother, where she met Madhuchandra. The accused, married and having a child, proposed to Rashi, but she refused. He followed Rashi, who was herding cattle back to her house, on Tuesday evening, stabbed her and fled. Rashi managed to walk a few yards and collapsed before her grandmother, said the police.

She was rushed to a hospital where she was declared brought dead.

Four drug peddlers held

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Vidyaranyapura police on Wednesday arrested a gang of four peddling drugs to their clients.

Sheikh Ali, 47, Sheikh Salman, 24, Muzammil, 34, and Vinod Kumar, 34, were caught from Singapura. The police recovered 56 gm of MDMA crystals, 2.3 kg of marijuana, ₹2.3 lakh cash, two mobile phones, and two bikes total worth ₹9 lakh.

Bus driver arrested for killing colleague over parking row

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kamakshipalya police have arrested a 48-year-old private bus driver for allegedly stamping another private bus driver to death over a parking row and later dumping his body in a storm water drain to make it look like an accidental death.

However, the accused Venkatesh made the mistake of covering the body with an old cotton bed he got from a garbage dump and placed a stone slab to conceal the body.

While the Kamakshipalya police recovered the body of Venkataswamy, 52, and registered an unnatural death case based on a post-mortem report which was not clear on the cause of death, Inspector Lohith B.N., who visited the scene of crime, suspected something amiss and began investigations.

While verifying a CCTV clip, the police came across a bus passing by and tracked it down before zeroing in on Venkatesh from Kodigehalli. A detailed probe led him to confess that he had frequent fights with Venkataswamy over parking.

Venkataswamy used to park his bus at the place designated to Venkatesh. Despite several warnings, Venkataswamy refused to listen. Venkatesh, on the night of January 12, confronted Venkataswamy and stamped him on his chest and neck and killed him, the police said.

He carried the body in the bus for around 3 km to an isolated place, and dumped it and returned. He parked the bus in the same place and went to sleep in it.

Timings
BENGALURU

THURSDAY, JAN. 19		
RISE	06:46	SET 18:14
RISE	03:57	SET 15:33
FRIDAY, JAN. 20		
RISE	06:46	SET 18:15
RISE	05:04	SET 16:38
SATURDAY, JAN. 21		
RISE	06:46	SET 18:15
RISE	06:10	SET 17:48

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	18
Mysuru	30	15
Bengaluru	30	15

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be very cool with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm. Night will be very cool and hazy.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C A dry weather to continue. Day will be slight warm. Night will be very cool with haze and mist.

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THE HINDU
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II. Scholarship Scheme for OBC Category Students - 500 Nos.
III. Scholarship Scheme for General/EWS Category Students - 500 Nos.
Scholarship in each scheme for an amount of ₹ 48,000/- per annum each to meritorious SC/ST, OBC and General/EWS category students pursuing professional courses in Engineering, MBBS and Master's degree courses in MBA, Geology and Geophysics. 50% of scholarships are reserved for girl students.
This scholarship is eligible only for the students who have got admission in the academic year 2021-22
Selection of candidates will be made on the basis of aggregate marks obtained in the qualifying examination prescribed for each specified course of study.
The last date of receipt of the application is 06.03.2023.
For more details and application format, please refer to the ONGC Foundation website www.ongcscholar.org
*Note: (IMPORTANT) Candidates are advised to use fast and Stable Wi-Fi connections ONLY while uploading the documents & submitting the application.
Notification for the scholarship scheme for AY 2022-23 will be announced shortly.

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Government of Karnataka - Forest Department

Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhadravathi Division, Lower Hutha, Bhadravathi – 577301

Ph:08282-266355 Fax:08282-266647

e-mail:dcfbdvt@yahoo.in

No.: B1/Timber Auction.C.R.-1/2022-23 Date: 16.01.2023

Brief Tender Notice Regarding Disposal of Forest Produce like Timber/Firewood/Billets/Poles through e-Auction

The date has been fixed on 30.01.2023 for disposal through e-auction of Timber/Firewood/ Billets/Poles stored in Tarikere Government Timber Depot in the limits of Bhadravathi Forest Division. The said e-Auction Sale Notice has been published in the letter of this office of even number dated 16.01.2023. Participation in the e-auction is subject to all conditions mentioned in the said Notice. Further information regarding the e-auction can be obtained from authorized website of GoK www.aranya.gov.in and www.etimber.in

Sd/- (Shivasharanaiah, KFS), Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhadravathi Division, Bhadravathi

DIPR/smg/No.123/01/mca/22-23/1700

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited

(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

(E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

No.: SEE/Tr(W&M)C/MRB/EE(O)/AEE-2/T-64/22-23/7110-12 Date: 16.01.2023

KPTCL invites Tenders against Bid Enquiry No.: **SEE/Tr.(W&M)C/MRB/EE(O)/AEE-2/22-23/TTK/250KVA Additional Auxiliary Transformer Badeladuku(Kudligi) Dtd: 16.01.2023,** for the work of **"Providing additional 250KVA 11kV/440V Auxillary transformer at 220/66/11KV Receiving station Badeladaku** in 220KV Receiving station Division Ittigi in Kudligi Taluk, Vijayanagara District, including supply of Equipments/ Materials, Erection (including civil works), testing and commissioning on Total Turnkey Basis.

Tenders will be received through E-Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL Website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink **"e-Procurement-KPTCL"** or directly logging on to website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **19.01.2023** at **11:00Hrs.** Details can be obtained from the office of the under signed.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Ele., Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Munirabad - 583 233.

Phone No.: **08539-270094.**

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAMA LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)

***Office of the* Executive Engineer, KNNL, SLIS, Division No-2, Huvinahadagali, Vijayanagara(Dist)**

Ph.No.08399-200001 e-mail: eeslid2hdl@gmail.com

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (ONLY THROUGH "*e-Procurement*" SYSTEM)

Reference: 1.This office Tender Notification No: 934/ 2022-23 Dated: 16.01.2023

Tenders in Electronic mode are invited on behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bengaluru, by the Executive Engineer, KNNL, SLIS Division No.2, Huvinahadagali, Vijayanagara District from the eligible tenderer and who are fulfilled the terms and conditions mentioned in tender notifications for Filling of Bityanatanda Kaggal Tank work taken under KKRDB programme of Huvinahadagali Constituency having **Indent No. 33059.** The amount put tender for this work Rs. 124.51 Lakh and the EMD amount is Rs. 1.87 Lakh. The bidders can access the tender in "***eproc.karnataka.gov.in***" website from 20.01.2023 onwards and the last date of submission for the tenders is 30.01.2023 and date of opening of Technical Bid 31.01.2023. A Pre-bid meeting held on 23.01.2023 at 11.00 AM in office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, SLIS Division No.2, Huvinahadagali.Further bidders are hereby by instructed to contact or visit the below mentioned office in working hours regarding Terms and Conditions of the tender and for furthermore information please contact **e-procurement Helpdesk Phone Numbers: +91-80-46010000, +91-80-68948777** . Conditional tenders are liable to be rejected. The officer competent to accept the tender shall have the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Sd/-Executive Engineer, KNNL, SLIS Division No-2, Huvinahadagali

DIPR/Vijayanagar/339/MCA/2022-23

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ

(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಉದ್ಯಮ)

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಕನೀನಿನಿ, ನಂ.5, ಭದ್ರಾ ನಾಲಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ. ಫೋ: 08192-264669

ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: eebcddvg@yahoo.co.in

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ:- ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ: ಸಂ/ಕಾಇಂ/ಕನೀನಿನಿ/ಭನಾವಿ.5:ದಾ/ಪ.ಬಿ-2/4701
ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು /2808/10/2022-23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07/01/2023.

ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕ.ನೀ.ನಿ.ನಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಕ.ನೀ.ನಿ.ನಿ, ನಂ.5 ಭದ್ರಾ ನಾಲಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ರವರು, ಉಲ್ಲೇಖಿತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕ 4701- ಭದ್ರಾ ಆಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಏಕ-ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಡಿ ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಅಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಶೇಕಡಾವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ (http://eproc.karnataka gov.in) ಮುಖಾಂತರವೇ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13/01/2023 ರಿಂದ ಡೌನಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ದಿ: 23/01/2023 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕುರಿತು ಸಷ್ಟೀಕರಣಕ್ಕೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19/01/2023 ರಂದು 5.30 ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24/01/2023 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಘಂಟೆ. ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ :-1 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 1) Construction of CC road in Davangere Taluk Amruth Nagar Putaganal road- de 50.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣ ನೀಡದೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಂದೂಡುವ, ಅಂಗಿಕರಿಸುವ ಅಥವಾ ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಕಾಯ್ದಿರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಅಥವಾ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ವಾಸಾಇ/ಡಿವಿಜಿ/822/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022-23 **ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್**

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)

CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

No. EEP/e-tender/ Dated: 17.01.2023

ABSTRACT BID NOTIFICATION

(Through e-Procurement Portal only)

E-tenders are published in GoK e-portal **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** under **"GOODS"** category on **12.01.2023, 13.01.2023, 14.01.2023 & 16.01.2023** as per RTPS requirements. **Tender No.& BRIEF DETAILS OF GOODS: Procurement of: 1)* EEP/ET/EE(P)/RTPS/22-23/721/CALL-2** Bottom ash emergency spares like Gate VLV, Globe VLV, etc. EMD: **Rs. 11,660/-. 2) RTPS/MRP57/G/21-22/4120/CALL-4** Solenoid valve, Spare coil, Spare kit, etc. EMD: **Rs. 1,270/-. 3) RTPS/MRP57/G/21-22/4197/CALL-2** Air filter regulator, Air lock relay, Volume booster, etc. EMD: **Rs. 12,280/-. 4) RTPS/MRP57/G/21-22/4157/CALL-4** Temperature switches, Transmitter, etc. EMD: **Rs. 16,540/-. 5) EEP/ET/EE(P)/RTPS/22-23/757** High volume sampler & Stack monitoring kit. Rs. 5,680/-. **6) RTPS/MRP21/G/21-22/3902/CALL-2** SS hollow tubes (All projects of KPCL). EMD: **Rs. 8,125/-. 7) EEP/ET/EE(P)/RTPS/22-23/824** Air heating elements for ESP of RTPS. EMD: **Rs. 29,530/-. 8) RTPS/MRP82/G/21-22/3213/CALL-3** Contactors, over load relays, spare coils for LT Switchgear. EMD: **Rs. 17,100/-. 9) EEP/ET/EE(P)/RTPS/22-23/827** Hydrogen gas for Units 1 to 8 of RTPS for the year 2023-24. EMD: **Rs. 32,400/-. 10)* EEP/ET/EE(P)/RTPS/22-23/797** Spares like Shaft sleeve, Lathern ring, etc. EMD: **Rs. 27,570/-. 11)* EEP/ET/EE(P)/RTPS/22-23/799** Spares like Jetting nozzle, view glass, etc. EMD: **Rs. 25,800/-. 12)* EEP/ET/EE(P)/RTPS/22-23/839** Telephone instruments. EMD: **Rs. 1,500/-. Short term tenders are: *1, 10 and 11.** Last date and time for receipt of tenders: For Sl. No. 1: **21.01.2023, 18.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 2, 3, 4, 9 & 12: **31.01.2023, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 5 & 8: **30.01.2023, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 6: **27.01.2023, 10.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 7: **28.01.2023, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 10 & 11: **24.01.2023, 16.00 Hrs.** All relevant details of the bids are available in the above mentioned e-portal. Further details can be had from the **Executive Engineer (Purchase),** RTPS, KPCL, Shaktinagar-584 170, Dist. Raichur. Mobile: 94495 96527. E-mail: eeprtps@gmail.com

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Malleshwaram Division, 2nd Cross, Jaladarshini Layout, MSR Nagar, Mathikere, Bengaluru - 560 054.

No.EE/MLM/E-PROC/20/22-23 Date: 18.01.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only) (Single & Two Cover System)

The Executive Engineer, Malleshwaram Division, invites tenders from eligible Contractors for the works detailed in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approximate Value of work (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (Rs.)
	SINGLE COVER SYSTEM		
1	Emergency Flood Relief Works to 1st Main, Palace Guttahalli, 11th cross, Vyalikaval, Malleshwaram Areas in ward No. 65 (Old Ward No. 64) **Call-3**	40.00	80,000/-
	TWO COVER SYSTEM		
2	Improvements and Developments Works of School Buildings in in ward No. 65 of Malleshwaram Constituency.	200.00	3,00,000/-
3	Providing and Fixing Children Play Equipment's & other Allied Works at Sangolli Rayanna Park in Ward No. 66, Malleshwaram.	99.00	1,98,000/-

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from e-procurement portal. **2)** Pre-bid Meeting : **25.01.2023 at 4.00 p.m. 3)** Last date and time for receipt of tenders: **31.01.2023 upto 4.00 p.m. 4)** Opening of Technical bid proposals: **02.02.2023 at 11.00 a.m.** Further details can be accessed from GoK e-procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or contact the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Malleshwaram Division.

Ministry of Communications, Department of Posts, Civil Wing

PRESS NOTICE INVITING PERCENTAGE RATE e-TENDER

Executive Engineer(C), Postal Civil Division, Bengaluru, invites on behalf of the President of India, online percentage rate tenders for the following work:

N.I.T. No.	:	**57/PCD/BGL/2022-23**
Name of Work	:	**"Vertical Expansion of BG RO Building in CO premises, Bengaluru."**
Estimated Cost	:	**Rs.76,69,418/-**
Earnest Money	:	**Rs.1,53,388/-**
Period of completion	:	**06 Months.**

Last time and date of submissionof bid: **30.01.2023 upto 3.00 PM**

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website **https://dopcivil.euniwizarde.com**

**Sd / -
Executive Engineer(C),
Postal Civil Division
Bangalore- 560032.**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್, ಮಂಡ್ಯ.

ಇ-ಮೇಲ್:dho.mandya@gmail.com

ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:08232-224027

ಸಂ:ಜಿಆಕುಕ/ಸರಬ/34/2022-23 ದಿನಾಂಕ:16.01.2023

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ವಿಷಯ : 2022-23 ಮತ್ತು 2023-24 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಇವರ ಅಧೀನದಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ 43 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ವಾಹನ ಚಾಲಕರ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ.

ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ: ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್, ಮಂಡ್ಯ ರವರು ಇದೇ ಕಡತದ ಟಿಪ್ಪಣಿ ಕಂಡಿಕೆ 18 ರ ದಿ:07-01-2023 ರಲ್ಲಿ ಅನುಮೋದಿಸಿರುವಂತೆ.

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ಅಧೀನದ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ 2022-23 ಮತ್ತು 2023-24 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ 43 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ವಾಹನ ಚಾಲಕರ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯಾದೇಶ ನೀಡಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಮೇಲೆ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿಯಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ (KTPP)1999 ನಿಯಮಗಳು 2000 ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ E-Procurement ಮೂಲಕ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ ಸೂಕ್ತ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು. ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಣಿಸಿದ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಗಮನಿಸಿ ಕ್ರಮವಹಿಸುವುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳ ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಮುಂದಿನ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಇ- ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

(1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಮತ್ತು ದಿನಾಂಕ : **ಸಂ:ಸರಬ/34/2022-23 ದಿ:16.01.2023**. (2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **17.01.2023 ರಿಂದ**. (3) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 31.01.2023 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆ ಒಳಗೆ. (4) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಲಕೋಟೆ ತೆರೆಯುವ ಸ್ಥಳ, ವೇಳೆ ಮತ್ತು ದಿನಾಂಕ : **ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ:02.02.2023 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ.** (5) ಹಣಕಾಸಿನ ಲಕೋಟೆಯನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ಸ್ಥಳ, ವೇಳೆ ಮತ್ತು ದಿನಾಂಕ : **ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಲಕೋಟೆಯನ್ನು ತೆರೆದ ನಂತರ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಲಕೋಟೆಯನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.** (6) (ಅ) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ : **ರೂ.90,10,000-00(ತೊಂಬತ್ತು ಲಕ್ಷದ ಹತ್ತು ಸಾವಿರ ರೂಗಳು ಮಾತ್ರ)** (ಆ) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪಾವತಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ 2.5% : **2,25,250-00 (ಎರಡು ಲಕ್ಷದ ಇಪ್ಪತ್ತೈದು ಸಾವಿರದ ಎರಡು ನೂರ ಐವತ್ತು ರೂಗಳು ಮಾತ್ರ)**. (7) ವ್ಯವಹರಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿಳಾಸ, ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಇಮೇಲ್: dho.mandya@gmail.com ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 08232-224027

ಸಹಿ/-ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ. ಮಂಡ್ಯ

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಸನಿ-ಮಂ/ಎಂಸಿ&ಎ/595/2022-23

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Gandhinagara Division, 2nd Floor, BBMP Complex, Behind Upparpet Police Station, Bengaluru - 560 009.

No: EE/GNR/E-Proc/23/2022-23 Date: 18.01.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

Tender for the following works on Item Rate basis are invited as Standard Bid Documents KW-2 KW-3 by the Executive Engineer Gandhinagara Division BBMP from the registered contractors of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or Equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES or any State Government Organizations.

SL. No.	Name of the Works/Category	Amount Put to Tender (₹. in Lakhs)	EMD (₹.in Thousand)
1.	Providing Cement Concrete to RK purama (Southern Side) and Surrounding Area in Ward No-94 (New Ward -133 Gandhinagar) (Others)	35.00	70000
	TWO COVER		
2.	Providing Cement Concrete to RK Puram (Northern Side) and Surrounding Area in Ward No-94 (New Ward-133 Gandhinagar) (Others)	55.00	110000
3.	Providing Cement Concrete to Lakshamanpuri (Right Side) and Surrounding Area in Ward No-94 (New Ward-133 Gandhinagar) (Others)	55.00	110000
4.	Providing Cement Concrete to Lakshmanpuri (left Side) and Surrounding Area in Ward No-94 (New Ward -133 Gandhinagar) (Others)	55.00	110000
5.	Augmentation of Water Supply Through Borewell Through Borewells Network of Pipeline and Ground Water Recharge Facilities in Gandhinagar Constituency (Others)	100.00	200000

Calendar of Events : Single Cover Works (1) Last date for uploading the Filled Proposals is **27.01.2023** upto **4:00** pm. (2) Date of Opening Tender on **30.01.2023** at **4:30** pm.

Calendar of Events : Two Cover Works (1) Last date for receipt of queries on **25.01.2023** at **4:00** pm. (2) Pre bid meeting will be held on **24.01.2023** at **11:30** am in the office of the Chief Engineer, (West Zone), Opp. Mantri Mall, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru. (3) Last date for uploading the Filled proposal is **27.01.2023** upto **4:00** pm. (4) Date of opening of Technical Proposals is **30.01.2023** at **4:00** pm. (5) Date of opening of Financial Proposals after approval of Technical Proposals through e-procurement. (6) This tender notice can also be seen on the BBMP Website: **www.bbmp.gov.in.**

Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Gandhinagara Division

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT MANGALURU DIVISION MANGALURU

Ref :-PW:DIV:MAG:TND(71E/68E/63E/59E/52E/ 51E/34E/30E/21E/6E):2022-23:JE3: Dated: 18.01.2023

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION
2nd Call /3rd Call /4th call /5th Call/ 6th Call

The Executive Engineer, PWD, Divn. Mangaluru Inviting Tender under E-tendering in http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in portal from eligible Tenderers in accordance with KTTP Act to the work Indent No: 161763, 161666, 161768, 161754, 161808 **Under the Head Of Account :- 8443-Deposit Contribution. Last date for reciept of above tender : 01.02.2023 upto 16.00 Hours.**

Inviting Tender for **3rd Call** to Indent No : 155059 & 155116 **Under the Head Of Account :- 5054-04-337-0-01-154 District and Other Roads Improvements. Last date for reciept of above tender : 02.02.2023 upto 16.00 Hours**

Inviting Tender for **2nd Call** Indent No: 151828 & **3rd Call** to Indent No.151963 **Under the Head of Account 5054 MDR Bridge.** And Inviting Tender for **2nd Call** Indent No. 160531 **Under the Head Of Account :- 8443-Deposit Contribution.** Inviting Tender for **2nd Call** Indent No. 159375, And **3rd Call** to Indent No.160566 And **4th Call** to Indent No : 156143, 155798, 155347, 156730 And **5th Call** to Indent No. 156729, 152832 And **6th Call** to Indent No. 155764, 156021 **Under the Head of Account:- 5054-04-337-0-01-154 District and Other Roads Improvements. Last date for receipt of above tender : 27.01.2023 upto 16.00 Hours.**

In the above Work Highest Cost of Estimate is Rs. 500.00 Lakhs & Lowest Cost of Estimate is Rs. 80.00 Lakhs.

Any Change in dates of events and value of work put to tender and EMD amount etc only can been seen from e -portal www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

DIPR / MNG / 1173 / MPL / 22-23 **Sd/- Executive Engineer**

Government of Karnataka

Karnataka Rural Road Development Agency, Bangalore

Office of the Executive Engineer, Project Division, Chikmagalur

No:EE/PD/Ckm/AE/Tender/ /NGNRY(SCP/TSP)/2022-23/06/ Dtd :11.01.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, Executive Engineer PMGSY Project Division, Chikmagalur, invites Item Rate. Tenders through e-procurement portal Improvements to Road from Baggavalli to Ajjampura-Birur connecting Baggavalli School Road in Tarikere Taluk, Chikmagalur District under NGNRY-SCP/TSP Pkg No.KSSCP09-06, Apt Rs.336.88Lakhs work by two cover system from Class-I contractors. Contractors who have registered in PWD adopting the guidelines of the KW4 Bidding Documents are eligible in participation of tendering. Accessing the bid document on e-procurement portal from 18.01.2023 from 15.00Hrs. Last date for bid submission is 03.02.2023 upto 16.30Hrs. Further details can be obtained from this. office any working days between or by logging onto https://www.eproc.karnataka gov.in

Sd/- Tendering Officer, PIU, Project Division, Chikmagalur

DIPR/CKM/252/MCA/22-23/1690

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: SEE/Tr(W&M)/MNG/EE(O)/AEE-2/2022-23/6074-78 Date: 16.01.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal Only)

KPTCL invites tenders for the following works.

(1) Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/2022-23/SS/WORK_INDENT 10173 **for Replacement of 1X10MVA, 110/33kV by 20 MVA, 110/33kV Transformer at 110/33/11kV Navunada Substation in Byndoor Taluk, Udupi Dist on PTK Basis. (Percentage Tender).**

(2) Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/2022-23/TL/WORK_INDENT 10174 **for Providing additional earthing to 110 towers (220 No's Earthings) of 220/110kV MC Kemar-Guruvayankere-Netlamudnur Transmission line to reduce line trippings due to lightening effect, in TLM Hiriyadka Section, under TL&SS Division, Kemar, Karkala.**

(3) Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/2022-23/SS/WORK_INDENT 10201 **for Replacement of 2x10MVA, 110/11kV by 2x20MVA, 110/11kV Power Transformers at 110/11kV Sub-station Nandikuru in Kaup Taluk and Udupi District on PTK Basis (Percentage Tender).**

(4) Bid Enquiry No: SEE/KPTCL/MNG/2022-23/25 Dt: 16.01.2023 **for Providing 3 Nos Security Guards to Watch & Ward duties at 220kV Station, Heggunje in Udupi Taluk, Udupi Dist on Contract Basis.**

(5) Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/2022-23/IND2316 **for Procurement of 7 Nos of 33kV class SF6 Circuit breakers for replacement of age old breakers of 33kV circuit breakers at various Sub-stations coming under TL&SS division, Kavoor, Mangaluru.**

The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to KPTCL website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink **"e-Procurement-KPTCL"** or to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **20.01.2023** Other details can be had from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superntending Engineer (Ele)., Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Maroli, Kulshekara, Mangaluru-575005. Ph: 0824-2211342

Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Shivamogga

Sagar Road, Shivamogga-577204, Off. Ph. No.: 08182-250338, AEE Off. Ph. No.: 08182-250173

Tender Notice No.: APMC/S/Development/2288/2022-23 Date: 11.01.2023

Brief Tender Notice

(Through e-procurement Portal of GoK)

Tender is invited through e-procurement portal as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999-2000, Act 2000 Rules as per Standard Tender Document-KW-4 from eligible K.W-4 contractors registered in Public Works Department for works of Constructing Shops on top of the shops being constructed adjoining Sagar Road in the Main Market Yard of the Committee under Annual Action Plan of Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Shivamogga for the year 2022-23. Total amount of works: Rs. 220.83 lakhs. E.M.D. Amount: Rs. 3,32,000-00. Last date for submission of filled tender bids through e-portal: 20.02.2023 up to 4.00 PM. Technical Bids will be opened in the office of the Secretary on 21.02.2023 at 4.30 PM.

Pre-bid meeting for related to the Tender will be conducted in the office of the Secretary on 31.01.2023 at 11.00 AM. Regarding uploading of tender e-portal Helpline 080-22485867 or 080-25501216 can be contacted. For further details visit www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in or contact Secretary, Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Shivamogga/ Assistant Executive Engineer, Market Development Project, No. 3 Sub Division, Shivamogga during office hours. If there are changes in the Schedule and Conditions of the Tender they will be published only in e-procurement. Newspaper Notice will not be published.

Sd/- Secretary, APMC, Shivamogga   **Sd/- Administrative Officer APMC, Shivamogga**

DIPR/smg/no.135/01/22-23/1706

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ASHFAQ Ahamed Kareem, S/o Kareem Mohamed Taylore Sattar R/at No.20, Lakshmaiah Reddy Road, Kacharakanahalli, Bengaluru-560084 have changed my minor daughter's name form Zainab to Zainab Ashfaq Ahamed vide affidavit dated 18.01.2023 sworn before Notary Bhagya Kumari.N, Bengaluru.

I, SALMA Khaja Fahim, W/o Manivannan Ponnaiah, residing at NGV, Koramangala, Bangalore have changed my minor son's name from Armaan Yaqub Manivannan to Armaan Manivannan vide affidavit dated 22-03-2021 sworn before Notary B.Chitra, Bangalore.

I, SALMA Khaja Fahim, W/o Manivannan Ponnaiah, residing at NGV, Koramangala, Bangalore have changed my minor son's name from Aadil Yusuf Manivannan to Aadil Manivannan vide affidavit dated 22-03-2021 sworn before Notary B.Chitra, Bangalore.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, K K Ahamed Mohidin, r/at No 837, 10th Cross, Vinobha Nagara, K G Halli, Bangalore 560045, have changed my name as K K Ahamed Mohideen vide affidavit dtd 16.01.2023 sworn before Notary C.Sharada, Bluru

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF 13th ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (CCH- 22) O.S. NO. 25835/2022

BETWEEN :
M/s. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its Manager and Power of Attorney Holder Mr. Pramodh G. **...Plaintiff**
Vs.
Mr. Jeelan Basha ...Defendant

Summons to Defendant

To,
Mr. Jeelan Basha
S/o Mr. Mohaboob Sab, Aged About 46 Years, No. 15/36, 2nd Floor, Palm Grove Cross Road, 3rd Cross, Victoria Layout, Bangalore- 560047.

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 7,06,450.27/- (Rupees Seven Lakhs Six Thousand Four Hundred Fifty and Paise Twenty Seven Only)** apart from future interest of 13.85 % p.a., in **O.S. No. 25835/2022** and same is pending adjudication in CCH-22, Before Addl. City Civil Court, Mayohall, Bengaluru. You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **15th** Day of **February, 2023** at 11 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte. Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the 5th day of January, 2023.

BY ORDER OF THE DEPUTY REGISTRAR, CITY CIVIL COURT, MAYOHALL BENGALURU- 560 001

FX & C0., ADVOCATES, New No.9, Old No.11/1 Gover Road, Cox Town, BENGALURU- 560 005.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE 13th ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MATOHALL AT BENGALURU (CCH-22) ORIGINAL SUIT NO. 25372 OF 2022

BETWEEN :
ICICI BANK LTD.,
A body corporate incorporated And registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1956 and licensed As a Bank under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 having Registered Office at : "Landmark", Race Course Circle, Vadodara- 390007
And having its Regional office at ICICI Bank Ltd., 11th Floor, C-Wing, Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bengaluru- 560 001,
And represented by its POA Holder, Sri. Pramodh G.
S/o. Gurumalappa. Age: 47 years. **...Plaintiff**
And
Mr. Karthik S. ...Defendant

Summons/Notice through Paper Publication

To,
Mr. KARTHIK S.
Aged about 31 years, Son of Shankar Muniyappa, R/at 13, Balaiah Naidu Street, Vannarpet, Near Vivek Nagara Post Office, Near Balaji Theater, Bengaluru- 560 047 **...DEFENDANT**

WHEREAS the above named Plaintiff has instituted case against you for recovery loan amount **Rs. 04,49,121/-** together with interest at the rate 24% p.a. from date of due to till the date of realization.

You are hereby summoned to appear before this**13th Addl. CC & SJ** Hon'ble Court (CCH-22) in person or by a advocate/pleader on 17-02-2023 at 11:00 A.M. to answer the questions of the same. Failing which the matter will be heard and determined as "EX-PARTE".

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 19th day of December, 2022.

By Order Of The Court

Advocate for Plaintiff
Mr. K.N. Arvinda Navada Advocate No.177/1, (88), 1st Floor, Besides 12th Cross, Cubbonpet Main Road, Bengaluru- 560 002.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE (CCH-69) AT BANGALORE O.S. NO. 2495/2021

BETWEEN :
M/s ICICI Bank Limited, having its registered office at : Landmark, Race-Course Circle, Vadodara- 390007, having its head office at M/s. ICICI Bank Ltd., No.1, Shobha Pearl, 2nd Floor, MG Road, Commissariat Road, Bangalore- 560025, and branch office at : 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanahalli, Hosur Main Road, Bengaluru-560068 through its Authorised representative. **...Plaintiff**
V/s.
Mr. Syed Shujauddin ...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF CPC

Defendant
1. Mr. Syed Shujauddin, S/o. Sayed Shahabuddin, Aged About 45 Years, Residing at No.2, 1st Floor, 3rd Cross, Lalbagh Fort, Near Ganesha Temple, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004.

Whereas the plaintiff above named has instituted the above suit for recovery of money for sum of Rs.2,93,359/- along with interest at the rate of 24% P.A. against you, and you are summoned to appear before the City Civil & Sessions Judge at Bengaluru (C.C.H.-69), in person or by a pleader, on the day of 9/2/2023 at 11:00 A.M. to answer the claim, failing to which the suit would be disposed of Ex- Parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 06th day of January, 2023.

By order of the court Assistant Registrar, Hon'ble City Civil Court, Bengaluru.

Advocate for Plaintiff
B.S. Jeevan Kumar Vidhii Partners, Advocates, No. 701, Queens Corner 'A', 3, Queens Road, Bengaluru- 01.

BSY: PM told us to take Muslims into confidence

The Hindu Bureau
HASSAN

Former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa has said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi advised BJP leaders to make prompt efforts to take Muslims into confidence.

Speaking to presspersons in Shivamogga on Wednesday, Mr. Yediyurappa said that Mr. Modi spoke for about 1.5 hours in the party's national executive meeting.

The former CM said that the PM suggested maintaining good relationships with Muslims. "Anyhow, we already have a good rapport with Muslims. They respect us and we have confidence in them. In the coming days, we will try to contact them more as per the Prime Minister's advice," he said.

He further said that Mr. Modi offered guidance on strategies to face the coming elections. "There was a fruitful discussion. We have come back with our spirts lifted. We have to strengthen the party organization and come back to power," he said.

It may be mentioned here that in April, 2022, amidst increasing incidents of communal strife in Karnataka, Mr. Yediyurappa had advised right-wing groups to show restraint and "allow the Muslim brethren to lead a life of dignity."

PM's visits

Mr. Yediyurappa also said that Mr. Modi will inaugurate the airport in Shivamogga in all probability on February 27. Mr. Modi is set to visit North Karnataka to participate in two events on Thursday.

Contractors stage dharna seeking release of dues

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Seeking redressal of their grievances, including release of ₹25,000 crore towards pending bills for three years, hundreds of members of Karnataka State Contractors' Association staged a protest here on Wednesday.

Members of Karnataka State Contractors' Association staging a protest in Bengaluru on Wednesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

The demands placed by the contractors include addressing the confusion in GST and abolishing package system in the tendering process. Despite several appeals to the government, the problems of contractors had not been solved, which forced them to take to streets, a note said. They have sought appointment of a High Court judge to probe their allegations of '40% commission' being sought by people in positions of power in the government to. "Do not push us to a situation where we will have to stop work," the note warned.

Saying that several states have addressed the concerns of contractors through Budget announcements, the association urged the State government to include their demands in the upcoming Budget.

"Is it wrong to ask for the works to be given to local contractors? Is it wrong to ask for payment of pending bills? The government should create a new head in the budget to clear pending dues and also invite fresh tenders based on fund availability," the contractors said in the note.

The association has also urged that the Government stop providing exemption for works from the KTTP Act, and stated that such exemption had become ground for corruption and poor quality work.

At least 36 Mahila Congress aspirants lobbying for ticket

In the 2018 Assembly elections, the party fielded 15 women candidates and six had won

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

After the State-level 'Na Nayaki' (I am a woman leader) convention of the Mahila Congress of the KPCC, nearly three dozen women aspirants have begun lobbying with senior leaders as well Central leaders of the party, seeking the ticket to contest 2023 Legislative Assembly elections.

A file photo of Congress leaders with Priyanka Gandhi Vadra during the 'Na Nayaki' convention in Bengaluru.

Women aspirants have been largely seeking the ticket in reserved constituencies and segments where there are no "winnable" male candidates of the party, sources in the Mahila Congress told *The Hindu*. Close to 180 women aspirants have submitted applications to the KPCC seeking the ticket for contesting elections, and of them, 36 female members are "serious and keen to contest elections", sources said.

Tally in 2018

In the 2018 Assembly polls, the party fielded 15 candidates, and of them, six had won.

"Women aspirants are meeting senior party leaders both in Bengaluru and Delhi to seek ticket. Our appeal is to field at least at least 10% of the total seats (224) of the Legislative Assembly," said Mahila Congress president B. Pushpa Amarnath, who is credited with playing a key role in organising the 'Na Nayaki' meet inaugurated by AICC General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Monday. Karnataka has close to 2.51 crore women voters in 2023 Assembly elections.

The Congress has made a women's manifesto in Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections held in 2022. A total of 148 candidates of the Congress entered the election fray in U.P. polls as a symbol of struggle with the slogan "Ladki Hoon, Lad Sakti Hoon." Only one woman, Aradhana Mishra Mona, won the election.

Impact in U.P.

Ms. Vadra admitted at the rally in Bengaluru that the party performed poorly in U.P. elections. But "the party managed to make every political party notice women and respond to the needs of women," she said.

All incumbent women MLAs are expected to get the ticket. The party has no strong male candidates in close to three dozen constituencies, including several constituencies in Bengaluru such as Yeshwantpur, Rajajinagar, Yelahanka, R.R. Nagar, Mahadevapura, and Govindarajanagar, sources said.

Pushpa Amarnath, from Mysuru, is herself keen to contest elections from reserved constituencies either from Mahadevapura in Bengaluru or Sakleshpur in Hassan district. Aravind Limbavali (BJP) represented Mahadevapura and H.K. Kumaraswamy (JD-S) was elected from Sakleshpur in 2018.

The party has already short-listed 2-3 names for each constituency. The first list of the party is expected to be announced next month, sources said.

CITU meet underlines need for persistent labour struggle on the lines of farmers' protest

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The economic policies of the BJP government at the Centre came under sharp criticism from trade unions, especially on disinvestment of public sector undertakings and subsuming of 29 labour laws into four labour code at the 17th conference of Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) that got under way here on Wednesday.

People taking part in CITU's 17th All-India Conference at Palace Grounds in Bengaluru on Wednesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

While the need for further unity among the trade unions was underlined, a consistent protest on the lines of farmers' protest in Delhi was mooted to bring pressure on the government to roll back anti-workers policies, keeping in view the general elections to be held in 2024.

In his introductory address, CITU General Secretary Tapan Sen described the Narendra Modi-led regime as being "anti-national, anti-people." He said, "We not only have to fight for the rights of the working class, but also to defend our country. Defiance and resistance should be the way forward." Pointing out at laws that were changed during the pandemic, trampling the rights of farmers and workers, AITUC General Secretary Amarjeet Kaur said that the "divisive agenda" of the BJP government should be stopped in 2024 elections.

Pledging support to the decisions to be taken at the CITU conference, the Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS) General Secretary, Karnataka, V.P. Naganath, said, "It has become a one-man regime and there is a need for protest the way farmers took up their cause." Concurring with Mr. Naganath, AIUTUC Vice President K. Somashekar said, "As many as 29 labour laws were turned into four labour code without any discussion with stakeholders. The farmers' struggle forced the government to withdraw three farm laws. Why are we unable to do the same for workers' rights?"

BJP to hold national executive of women's morcha, State-level women's convention

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Close on the heels of the Congress holding a women's convention at Bengaluru Palace Grounds recently, the BJP is set to hold a national executive of its Mahila Morcha in Tumakuru on January 20 and 21.

After this, the BJP will hold a State-level convention of women sometime towards the end of this month. Though this was planned earlier, the party is set to scale it up in a bid to outsmart Congress.

The national executive would see the participation of presidents and general secretaries of the party's Mahila Morchas from all States. The BJP attaching special importance to the event is evident in the participation of party strategist and national organizing general secretary B.L. Santosh in its valedictory.

Moves and counter-moves

Interestingly, two days ahead of the Congress holding its women's convention under the leadership of AICC General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had announced that the State budget to be presented in February would provide financial assistance to women heads of families to take care of their household expenses.

This was being seen as an attempt to take the shine off the Congress convention. The Congress too laid emphasis on household expenses as it announced Bhagya Lakshmi scheme of providing ₹2,000 to women heads of each household to manage their expenses if the party was voted to power.

Increasing numbers

Political parties have been making definite efforts to woo women voters in Karnataka in the last few years. Their special interest in women coincides with the State witnessing an improvement in gender ratio in terms of women voters.

The women voters in the state are almost inching towards the 50% mark, as they account for 2.5 crore of the total 5.05 crore voters in the state. The gender ratio too has improved from 958 women voters per 1,000 men voters in 2013 to 988 women voters this year.

'Give houses to Kannadigas in Goa'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Gadi Horata Samithi has submitted a petition to the State government to provide houses to 1,179 homeless Kannada-speaking families who have been evicted from Baina beach in Goa.

In a petition to Karnataka Border Authority Development Chairman C. Somashekar, samithi president B.K. Rao Baindoor said the Goa government demolished 1,179 houses and left close to 9,000 Kannadigas homeless. He criticised the BJP for its failure to protect Kannada-speaking people in Goa.

Training of apprentices

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The 515 Army Base Workshop, Bengaluru, is undertaking training of apprentices for ITI-passed candidates commencing from April 1 on the factory premises for one year.

Those who have completed craftsmen training under National Council of Vocational Training scheme from recognized ITI/ITCs may apply online through National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme portal by February 15. The details of the website is www.apprenticeshipindia.gov.in.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Zone, Dasarahalli Division, 2nd & 3rd Cross, 2nd Main Road, 3rd Block, HMT Layout, Near BWSSB Water Tank, Nagasandra, Bengaluru-560 073.
No: BBMP/EE/DD/TEN/18/2022-23 Date: 18.01.2023
INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Two Tender Document System) - KW-1 & 2
(Only Through GOK e-Procurement Portal)

The Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites Tenders from eligible Tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of Work/Category	Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Amount (Rs.)
1	Construction of CC Roads,(SCP & TSP works) in Maruthi Nagara in Ward No.16 **(Others)**	**32.30**	80,750/-
2	Improvements to roads, Culverts & drains in Byraveshwarara Nagara & Surrounding area in Ward No.18 Bagalagunte. **(Others)**	**40.40**	1,01,000/-
3	Improvements to roads, Culverts & drains in Manjunatha Nagara & Soap Factory Layout & Surrounding area in Ward No.18 Bagalagunte. **(SC)**	**40.40**	50,500/-
4	Improvements to roads, Culverts & drains in MEI Layout & Jyothi Nagara & Surrounding area in Ward No.18 Bagalagunte. **(Others)**	**40.40**	1,01,000/-
5	Improvements to roads, Culverts & drains behind Dasarahalli Metro Station & Surrounding area in Ward No.21 T.Dasarahalli. **(SC)**	**40.36**	50,450/-
6	Improvements to roads, Culverts & drains in Kalasti Nagara & Surrounding area in Ward No.21 T.Dasarahalli. **(Others)**	**40.40**	1,01,000/-
7	Improvements to roads, Culverts & drains in Krishne Gowda Layout & Coconut Garden & Surrounding area in Ward No.21 T.Dasarahalli. **(Others)**	**24.22**	60,550/-
8	Improvements to roads, Culverts & drains in MTS Colony & Surrounding area in Ward No.21 T.Dasarahalli. **(Others)**	**24.22**	60,550/-
9	Improvements to roads, Culverts & drains in Officers Model Colony & Surrounding area in Ward No.21 T.Dasarahalli. **(SC)**	**40.40**	50,500/-
10	Improvements to KIDB Chokkasandra, Nethajinagara ST Colony Cross roads in Ward No.22 Chokkasandra. **(Others)**	**20.20**	50,500/-
11	Improvements to ST Colony 4th & 5th Cross roads behind Rajagopala nagara Police Station in Ward No.24. **(Others)**	**20.10**	50,250/-
12	Improvements to roads & drains at 7th cross, 8th cross, Rajagopala Nagara and surrounding crosses in Ward No.25 **(ST)**	**24.15**	30,200/-
13	Improvements to roads & drains at Sunkadakatte and its surrounding area in Ward No.27. **(Others)**	**24.15**	60,375/-

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents can be downloaded from the e-Procurement portal of GOK from **25.01.2023 onwards.** (2) Last date & time for receipt of tenders: **03.02.2023 upto 16:30 hrs.** (3) Opening of Financial Bids: **04.02.2023 at 16:30 hrs.** (If possible).
Further details can be had from the office of the above during office hours on all working days or visit e-Procurement portal website: **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP

ODISHA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING)
SANTARAPUR, BHUBANESWAR- 751002.
Tel-MD 0674- 2340573, Tel Fax-2340096, E-mail - mdosscltd456@gmail.com
NIT No.OSSC/Mktg-33/2023
e-Tender Call Notice for Procurement of Certified seed material of Ginger & Turmeric for 2022-23

OSSC Ltd. invites e-Tender only from Producers (and in case of GOI PSUs, their authorized Agencies) on item wise rate contract basis in double cover system through online mode only for the works below.

Name of the work	Purchase of Certified seed material of Ginger & Turmeric for 2022-23
Nos of work	One
Availability of Bid Document in Portal	15 hours on 21.01.2023 to 17 hours of 13.02.2023
Last date of receipt of tender in portal	17 hours of 13.02.2023
Date and Time of Opening of Bid	11 hours of 14.02.2023

The detailed descriptions of crops, varieties, quantity, parameters, terms and conditions specified in the tender schedule would be available in the e-Tender portal **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum/ corrigendum / cancellation can also be seen in the said website.
CAD-4540 :
Managing Director, OSSC Ltd.
OIPR-01106/11/0015/2223

TELANGANA STATE MEDICAL SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Director of Health Campus, Sultan Bazar, Hyderabad -95, Telangana State
Tender Notice No.14 /2022/Medicine/MW/TSMSIDC, Dt. 18.01.2023
Tender Notice No.15 /2022/Surgical/MW/TSMSIDC, Dt. 18.01.2023
Above mentioned tenders are invited through e-procurement platform (online) for Procurement and supply of following under Rate contract for a period of Two Years: **T.No.14:** Medicines, **T.No.15:** Surgical & Consumables (1. General Consumables, 2. Specialty Consumables, 3. Devices, 4. Sutures, 5. Miscellaneous). Managing Director, TSMSIDC reserves the right to cancel the tender at any time without assigning any reason. For complete details, please visit Web site: **https://tender.telangana.gov.in** from **20.01.2023** onwards.
R.O. No. : 1189-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2022-23 **Sd/- Managing Director**

KARNATAKA INFORMATION COMMISSION
Mahithisoudha, Devaraj Uras Road,
Opp. To Vidhanasoudha West Gate, Bangalore-560001.
Phone No: 080-2237 1959 E-mail: secy-kic@karnataka.gov.in
No: KIC/15/ADM/2022 Date: 17.01.2023
e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Short term tender is invited under e-Tendering system from the authorised agents under KTTP Act 1999 and 2000 for supply of following Man Power under outsourcing system to the Commission. The tenders who have registered under e-Governance Department may participate through e-tendering system.

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Resources	Qty.	Last Date for Submission of Tender
1.	KIC/TND/ OUTSOURCE/ 01/2022-23 Dated:18.01.2023	Judgement Writer	18	01.02.2023 upto 5.00 PM.
2.		Stenographers	12	
3.		Assistant	16	
4.		Data Entry Operator	12	
5.		Typist	11	
6.		Group-D	27	
7.		Security	04	

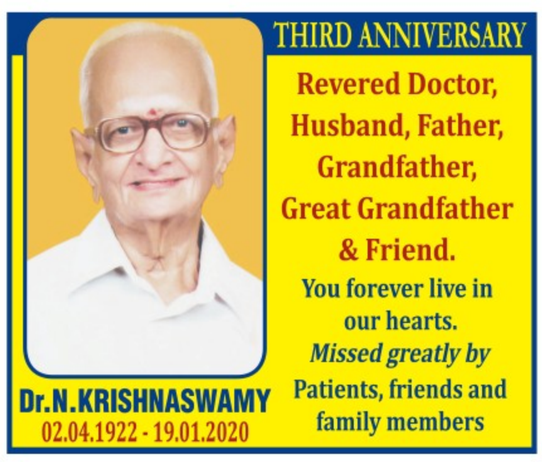
Tender forms containing technical specifications, can be downloaded from **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** Those who are willing to implement the project must necessarily be registered in e-Procurement portal. For further details the vendors may contact the helpline No: **91-8046010000 & 91-8068948777** and for further details the vendors are requested to visit the tender document available on **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

1) Last date for submission of Tender Document: **01.02.2023 upto 5.00 PM. 2)** EMD amount: Rs. 3,50,000/- which shall be paid online through any of the following modes. a) Credit Card b) Debit Card c) National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) d) Detail of the payment mode as mentioned in the bide document (e-payment document available on website.) **3)** Pre-bid meeting: **23.01.2023 at 3:00 PM 4)** Technical Bid opening: **03.02.2023 at 11.00 AM** 5) Commercial Bid opening: **06.02.2023 at 11.00 AM.**

Sd/- Secretary,
Karnataka Information Commission,
Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/4144/AAA/2022-23

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES



DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

THURSDAY
January 19, 2023

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Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Government of India | Government of Karnataka | G20 भारत 2023 INDIA | 75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

NAVA KARNATAKA
FOR NAVA BHARAT

Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Karnataka In The Forefront
Of Development And Social Justice With
Projects Worth Over Rs.10,800 Crore

Dedication to the Nation and Foundation Stone Laying for Projects
and Distribution of Title Deeds to Tanda Dwellers
by Shri Narendra Modi,
Hon'ble Prime Minister Of India

19-01-2023 | Yadgiri-Kalaburagi, Karnataka

Distribution of Title Deeds to 52,072 nomads in five districts of North Karnataka

A revolutionary step by the State Government

Benefits

- To provide a permanent roof to the nomads of Lambani Tanda, Hatti, Haadi, Gollarahatti and Vaddara Hatti, title deeds will be distributed to 52,072 people in 5 districts - Kalaburagi (27,267), Bidar (7,500), Raichur (3,500), Yadgiri (11,200) and Vijayapura (2,605).
- These Tandas have already been declared as Revenue Villages by the state government.

Laying the foundation stone for Yadgiri Multi-Village Drinking Water Project under Jal Jeevan Mission - Rs. 2,004 crore

- A 117 MLD Water Treatment Plant is being built under the project.

Benefits

- Treated water from Narayanapura Dam for 15.84 lakh people
- Sustainable and pure drinking water for 710 rural habitations (2,32,470 households) and 3 towns (Kakkera, Kembhavi and Hunasagi)
- The entire district of Yadgiri will benefit from the project.

Dedication to the nation of ERM works of Narayanapura Left Bank Canal - Rs. 4,699 crore

The canal extension, rejuvenation and modernization works of the Narayanapura Left Bank Canal was taken up to ensure equal water distribution to the farmers in the Narayanapura Left Bank Canal command area and provide water to areas deprived of irrigation facility.

The Project

- The Narayanapura Left Bank Canal has a capacity of 10,000 cusecs. It provides irrigation facility to 4.50 lakh hectares of area in Vijayapura, Kalaburagi and Yadgiri districts through the Hunasagi Branch Canal, Shahapura Branch Canal, Indi Branch Canal and Indi Lift Irrigation project.

SCADA based automated system

Works involved in the project

- Rejuvenation of Narayanapura Left Bank Main Canal
- Rejuvenation of Hunasagi, Shahapura, Mudbal, Indi and Jewargi Branch Canals
- Rejuvenation of Distributary Canal, Lateral and Sub Canals
- Installation of SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) based automated gates for Head Regulator, Cross Regulator, Distributary, Lateral and Sub Canals

Benefits

- Equitable, fair and effective distribution of water to the farmers coming under the canal command area
- Farmers of the tail-end region now have access to irrigation.
- Water leakage has been reduced and Water Use Efficiency has been increased from 31.75% to 51%.
- More than 3 lakh farmers are benefitted from the project.

Laying the Foundation Stone for Access Controlled Greenfield Highway (Surat-Chennai)

- Yadgiri (km 97 to km 162.50), Total Length 65.50 km - Rs. 1,999.24 crore
- Kalaburagi (km 26 to km 97), Total Length 71 km - Rs. 2,110.52 crore

Socio-Economic Benefits

- The project opens up hinterlands for development.
- Acts as a catalyst for the under-developed and undeveloped regions.
- Better connectivity between ports on the East and West Coasts
- Saves travel distance of 330 km and a travel time of about 8 hours
- Eliminates delay in passing through major towns and congested areas
- Boost to agricultural and industrial production in the regions along the Greenfield Highway

As enshrined in our Constitution, - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

Watch the program live on DD News

karnataka information
Department of Information and Public Relations

INBRIEF

HC adjourns hearing on Faizal's plea till January 20

The Kerala High Court on Wednesday adjourned till January 20 the hearing on an appeal filed by disqualified Lakshadweep MP Mohammed Faizal and three others against an order of the Kavaratti Sessions Court that sentenced them to 10 years in jail for attempting to murder Mohammed Salih, son-in-law of former Union Minister P.M. Sayeed, during the 2009 Lok Sabha elections.

Case on Telangana BJP chief's son still under probe: police

In the incident involving BJP Telangana president Bandi Sanjay's son Bandi Sai Bhagirath assaulting and intimidating a fellow student at Mahindra University, the police said that the case was still under investigation as the university was closed till January 23. "We have booked a case against Bhagirath Sai but there are no witnesses available due to the vacation. Even the victim is not in town for questioning. Once everybody comes back, we can continue with the investigation," the police said.

'Reinstate allocation of foodgrains under PMGAY'

The Kerala government has urged the Centre to reinstate the allocation of foodgrains under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Anna Yojana (PMGAY), as the Centre's decision to stop the scheme is resulting in price rise of rice in the State. Kerala has also asked the Centre to review the move to compulsorily distribute fortified rice through all fair price shops. The issues came up during a meeting which Kerala Food Minister G.R. Anil had with the Union Food Minister Piyush Goyal here on Wednesday.

At BJP meet, PM attempts to steady party's south strategy

The party is facing an uphill task of dealing with regional parties in the southern States; the real fight of the BJP will be in combating regional parties in Telangana and Tamil Nadu

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

BJP's national executive meeting, which concluded in New Delhi on Tuesday, has brought Prime Minister Narendra Modi's concerns over the party's political journey in the southern States to the fore.

Mr. Modi's various interventions during the course of the two-day meet of national executive point to the fact that the BJP is grappling with some fundamental issues of dealing with established regional parties in these States, and one satrap in its own party in Karnataka.

According to senior sources in the BJP, Mr. Modi made it a point to praise Telangana BJP chief Bandi Sanjay who has been on a yatra across the State. "Prime Minister also asked five leaders from each State unit to participate in the yatra," said a source present at the meeting.

Taking stock: Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrives for the BJP national executive meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday. ANI

On the sidelines of the national executive meet, Mr. Modi also spoke one-on-one with former Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yeddyurappa, a move that points to the fact that the BJP in the State is flailing and Mr. Yeddyurappa is still needed to steady the ship. Mr. Modi also mentioned the cultural and spiritual ties revived by the Kashi Tamil Sangamam programme held in Varanasi, an important counter point of BJP's cultural nationalism to the Dravidian politics of Tamil Nadu.

All of this shows, the actual frontier now for the party's political expansion is South India.

Prime Minister Modi's tete-a-tete with Mr. Yeddyurappa directly after the presentation reflected the concerns raised by it.

It also demonstrates that while BJP has been successful in combating the Congress in Karnataka, the real fight will be in combating regional parties in Telangana and Tamil Nadu.

Attach properties of PFI leaders straightaway, Kerala HC tells govt.

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

A Division Bench of the Kerala High Court on Wednesday expressed its displeasure over the delay in attaching the properties of A. Abdul Sathar, State secretary of the outlawed Popular Front of India (PFI), and other office-bearers of the organisation for their failure to deposit ₹5 crore as directed by the High Court towards damages during a flash hartal held in September last year.

The Bench comprising Justice A. Jayasankaran Nambiar and Justice Mohammed Nias C.P. observed that the State government should have straightaway proceeded to attach the properties and bring them to sale for realisation of ₹5.2 crore by following the procedure under Section 35 of the Revenue Recovery Act.

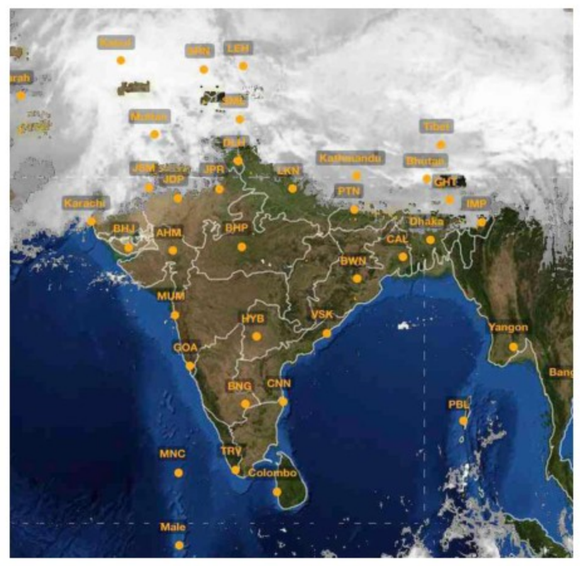
The court clarified that its directive was to proceed against the properties of the office-bearers of the organisation concerned after finding that they had not complied with its earlier directive to deposit the amount. Under the circumstances, a further notice asking them to show cause as to why their properties should not be attached was wholly unnecessary.

The court directed the State government to file a report on the attachment of the properties by January 23.

The court passed the order in a case against the flash hartal called by the outlawed organisation.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Thursday: Cold wave conditions likely in isolated pockets over Punjab, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and north Madhya Pradesh. Dense fog likely in isolated pockets over Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Sikkim, sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Odisha

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	23.4	10.0	Kozhikode	—	34.4	22.6
Ahmedabad	—	26.5	11.0	Kurnool	—	33.5	17.2
Aizawl	—	—	5.9	Lucknow	—	20.2	5.8
Allahabad	—	22.1	5.0	Madurai	—	32.4	19.5
Bengaluru	—	29.5	14.7	Mangaluru	—	33.0	21.9
Bhopal	—	—	7.0	Mumbai	—	32.5	15.5
Bhubaneswar	—	29.1	19.4	Mysuru	—	30.4	9.7
Chandigarh	—	19.4	3.1	New Delhi	—	19.6	2.6
Chennai	—	29.5	21.2	Patna	—	20.6	6.2
Coimbatore	—	30.2	17.6	Port Blair	—	30.0	20.6
Dehradun	—	20.0	4.8	Puducherry	—	30.2	18.8
Gangtok	—	11.0	4.2	Pune	—	32.5	13.4
Goa	—	31.6	19.7	Raipur	—	29.2	15.6
Guwahati	—	22.2	10.3	Ranchi	—	22.4	10.2
Hubballi	—	33.0	16.0	Shillong	—	14.1	1.2
Hyderabad	—	30.4	17.0	Shimla	—	11.9	6.0
Imphal	—	21.5	3.6	Srinagar	—	6.6	-4.3
Jaipur	—	21.4	5.7	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.8	22.6
Kochi	—	31.0	23.4	Tiruchi	—	30.1	18.6
Kohima	—	16.6	3.0	Vijayawada	—	29.6	18.2
Kolkata	—	22.9	15.5	Visakhapatnam	—	29.0	22.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	5	23	24	152	155	
Bengaluru	2	20	26	67	96	
Chennai	22	36	38	140	103	
Delhi	—	132	74	365	373	
Hyderabad	18	6	74	76	96	
Kolkata	4	29	66	308	171	
Lucknow	14	55	70	290	249	
Mumbai	47	177	29	438	326	
Pune	—	—	—	—	—	—
Visakhapatnam	2	46	35	139	124	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Begusarai, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 437 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Mysuru, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 39

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

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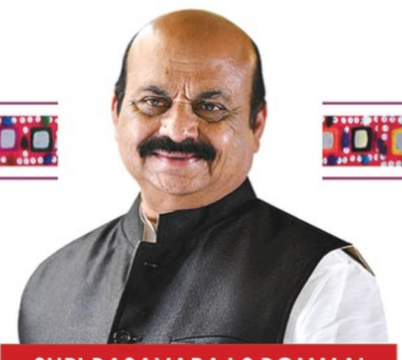
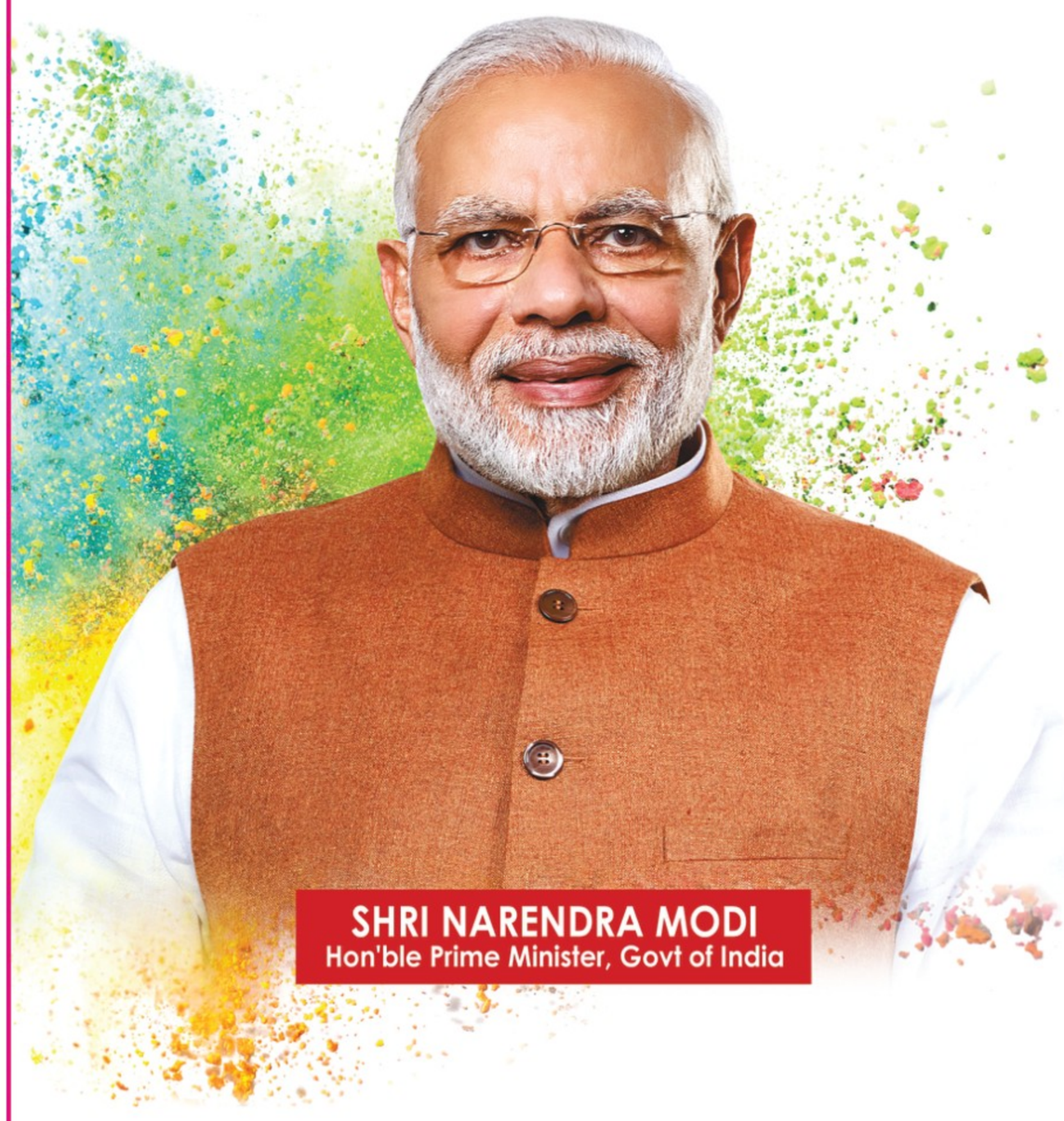


SHRI BASAVARAJ S.BOMMAI
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt of Karnataka



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Hon'ble Prime Minister, Govt of India

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Place: Malkhed, Sedam Taluk, Kalaburagi Dist.

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Check, do not cross

Government should work towards systemic reform; not attack the judiciary

There is something rude and unpleasant in the way the Government is going about the task of demanding a big say in the appointment of judges in constitutional courts. The latest salvo is from Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju, who has written to the Chief Justice of India to request that the executive be given a role in the appointment process, which now is being handled by a Collegium of judges. Reports say that the Minister wants the formation of a search-and-evaluation committee, with Government representatives, to suggest names to the collegiums in the High Courts and the Supreme Court for appointments. He is also understood to have asked for a representative of the Union government in the Supreme Court collegium, and a State government's representative in the High Court collegiums. The letter comes as the latest in a series of official fulminations against the judiciary. Mr. Rijiju has been at the forefront of this attack, frequently questioning the collegium system by rightly highlighting some of its acknowledged flaws. There is little doubt that the Government's anger is towards the 2015 judgment of a Constitution Bench striking down the formation of a National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC). While few would disagree that the Collegium system needs reform, the Government's motive in carrying on a campaign against the judiciary in the name of seeking reform in the appointments process is questionable.

The answers to some of the issues raised by the Government are quite simple, and has been repeatedly pointed out by the Court, as well as the political opposition. It can address the need for a more transparent and independent process by making a fresh legislative effort to establish a neutral mechanism that does not impinge on the independence of the judiciary. Until such an exercise to amend the Constitution achieves fruition, it has to abide by the law of the land, that is, the present system of appointments through the Collegium. It is difficult to avoid the impression that the Government's tactics are bordering on veiled warnings: deliberately delaying action on recommendations; ignoring reiterated names even after multiple reconsiderations; and carrying on a campaign to delegitimise the institution. It is surprising that it seeks to rein in a judiciary that has been quite accommodative of the Government's concerns on the judicial side in recent years. The only conclusion is that the current regime wants absolute control over who gets to be a judge in this country. A system of checks and balances that prevents any one branch gaining the upper hand is essential for democratic functioning.

Risks and rewards

Jallikattu should not incentivise risk-taking by participants, spectators

The deaths of five men in Tamil Nadu in as many events of *jallikattu* and *manjuviratu* – in Madurai, Tiruchi, Sivaganga, Pudukottai and Karur districts – and injuries to dozens of persons this week, though unfortunate, are no surprise. Ever since the event resumed in January 2017 after a three-year ban and a massive agitation, participants and spectators alike have been its victims. According to the Animal Welfare Board of India, between 2008-14, there have been 43 deaths and thousands of injuries. As of now, zero human casualty remains an elusive goal, not to speak of the plight of the animal. The Supreme Court of India has reserved its judgment on a batch of petitions questioning the validity of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Act of 2017. Organisers of *jallikattu* events must note the observation made in late November by the Constitution Bench, which heard arguments over the amendment, that the sport of *jallikattu* as such might not be brutal but the "form" in which it was being held in the State might be cruel. Proponents of *jallikattu*, who view the event as a sport, argue that the logic that is applied to football or boxing, where the probability of injury is high, should be extended to *jallikattu* too. Also, just as the occurrence of mishaps does not trigger the demand for a ban on these two sporting activities, the same yardstick should hold good for *jallikattu*, which is also justified in the name of culture, tradition and valour. But, what is overlooked is that in football or boxing, or even car racing, the whole game centres around humans, unlike in *jallikattu*.

At the same time, regulation and safety are being given greater importance. It is comforting that the authorities have tightened the rules. In Madurai district, which has 21 venues, an online registration system allowed bull owners to choose only one out of the three high-profile venues – Avaniapuram, Palamedu and Alanganallur. In Tiruchi, no more than 700 bulls can be released at each event. Of course, elaborate guidelines were issued by the State Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Fishing and Fishermen Welfare Department in late December, on the duties and responsibilities for each stakeholder. Though fairly extensive, the rules should also have stringent penal provisions. The authorities should focus on preventing deaths, at least among spectators, who should be behind impregnable barricades. Also, the government should end the practice of having fancy prizes, such as cars and motorcycles, to draw in youth. After all, *jallikattu* was originally meant to showcase strength and valour, and the rewards should not be seen as an incentive to overlook the risks to life and limb.

Admonishments that endanger the Constitution

Suhrith Parthasarathy

is an advocate practising in the Madras High Court

Come April and it will be 50 years since the Supreme Court of India delivered its verdict in *Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala*. The judgment is widely recognised as a milestone in India's history. In holding that Parliament's power to amend the Constitution was not plenary, that any change that damages the document's basic structure would be declared void, the Court, it was understood, had helped preserve the essence of our republic.

In the years since the verdict – if not in its immediate aftermath – its importance has been recognised by successive governments. During this time, most criticism of the doctrine has been confined to the manner of its application rather than its legitimacy. But last week, India's Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar launched a salvo of attacks at the Supreme Court, by calling into question the ruling's correctness. Faced as we are with far greater issues of civic concern, this debate might well be regarded as tedious, if only the arguments made against the judgment were not part of what appears to be a concerted effort at undermining the judiciary's importance.

Collegium as target

Over the course of the last few months, not a day has gone by without one member or the other of the political executive excoriating the Court over its apparent excesses. Much of this criticism has been aimed at the functioning of the collegium – a body of senior judges that makes binding recommendations on appointments and the transfer of judges. The Union Minister of Law and Justice, Kiren Rijiju, and indeed Mr. Dhankhar, have repeatedly doubted the Court's judgment in 2015, in which it struck down efforts to replace the collegium with a National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC). That criticism has now turned sharper, with the Vice-President's diatribe against *Kesavananda*.

In his maiden address to the Rajya Sabha in December 2022, Mr. Dhankhar claimed that the striking down of the NJAC had no parallels in democratic history. A "duly legitimised constitutional prescription," he claimed, "has been judicially undone." Speaking on January 11 at the 83rd All India Presiding Officers (Assembly Speakers) Conference in Jaipur, Rajasthan, he said that "in a democratic society, the basic of any basic structure is supremacy of people, sovereignty of parliament...The ultimate power is with the legislature. Legislature also decides who will be there in other institutions. In such a situation, all institutions must confine to their domains. One must not make incursion in the domain of others."

> To suggest that the basic structure doctrine is by itself unsanctioned is to place the Constitution at the legislature's whim

Mr. Dhankhar then heightened his criticism by doubting the legitimacy of the basic structure doctrine. The correctness of the Court's view, he said, "must be deliberated...Can Parliament allow that its verdict will be subject to any other authority? In my maiden address after I assumed the office of Chairman of Rajya Sabha, I said this. I am not in doubt about it. This cannot happen."

To be sure, genuine criticism of both the Collegium's functioning and the Court's judgment upholding the body's legality ought to be welcomed. But seeing as the Government, as Mr. Rijiju confirmed in Parliament last month, has no plans to implement any systemic change in the way we appoint judges, and given that the Government itself has done little to promote transparency in the process, the present reproach is, at its best, unprincipled, and, at its worst, an attempt at subverting the judiciary's autonomy. That it is likely the latter is clear from the fact that the Vice-President has now carried his denunciation to a point where his admonishments are reserved not just for the collegium but also for the ruling in *Kesavananda*.

The foundation of the Constitution

Were we to begin with the elementary premise that India's Constitution, as originally adopted, comprises a set of principles that together lend it an identity, we will see that the *raison d'etre* for the basic structure doctrine is not difficult to grasp. On any reasonable reading of constitutional history, one can see that the Constitution is a product of a collective vision. That vision was built on distinct, if interwoven, ideals: among others, that India would be governed by the rule of law, that our structure of governance would rest on Westminster parliamentarianism, that the powers of the legislature, the executive and the judiciary would be separate, that the courts would be independent of government, and that our States would have absolute power over defined spheres of governance.

Now, ask yourself the following questions: what happens when an amendment made to the Constitution harms one or more of these principles in a manner that alters the Constitution's identity? Would the Constitution remain the same Constitution that was adopted in 1950? Should Parliament amend the Constitution to replace the Westminster system with a presidential style of governance, would the Constitution's character be preserved? Or consider something rather more radical: can Parliament, through amendment, efface the right to life guaranteed in Article 21? Would this not result in the creation of a document of governance that is no longer "the Constitution of India?"

It is by pondering over questions of this nature that the majority in *Kesavananda* found that there was much that was correct in the German professor Dietrich Conrad's address in February 1965 at the Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. There, Conrad had pointed out, that "any amending body organized within the statutory scheme, howsoever verbally unlimited its power, cannot by its very structure change the fundamental pillars supporting its constitutional authority".

As the Court would later explain in *Minerva Mills vs Union of India* (1980) – and incidentally at stake there was the very survival of the idea that fundamental rights are inviolable – "Parliament too is a creature of the Constitution". Therefore, it can only have such powers that are expressly vested on it. If those powers are seen as unlimited, Parliament, the Court found, "would cease to be an authority under the Constitution"; it would instead "become supreme over it, because it would have power to alter the entire Constitution including its basic structure". In other words, the principle that Parliament is proscribed from changing the Constitution's essential features is rooted in the knowledge that the Constitution, as originally adopted, was built on an intelligible moral foundation.

On this construction, it is possible to see the basic structure doctrine as implicit on a reading of the Constitution as a whole. But it is also deductible, as Justice H.R. Khanna wrote in his controlling opinion in *Kesavananda*, through an interpretation of the word "amendment". The dictionary defines "amendment" to mean a "minor change or addition designed to improve a text". As Justice Khanna saw it, when the Constitution that emerges out of a process of amendment as stipulated in Article 368 is not merely the Constitution in an altered form but a Constitution that is devoid of its basic structure, the procedure undertaken ceases to be a mere amendment.

Since its judgment in *Kesavananda*, the Supreme Court has identified several features that are immutable. There is no doubt that on occasion, the Court's interpretation of these features has suffered from incoherence. But to suggest that the basic structure doctrine is by itself unsanctioned is to place the Constitution at the legislature's whim. When taken to its extreme, accepting the Vice-President's claims would mean that, in theory, Parliament can abrogate its own powers and appoint a person of its choice as the country's dictator. Consider the consequences.

Signals of a slow return to peace in Syria

Talmiz Ahmad

is a former diplomat

As Syria enters the 13th year of its lethal civil conflict, a bomb explosion in Istanbul on November 13, that killed six persons, seems to have accelerated a diplomatic process which could bring peace to that tormented land. Turkish authorities immediately blamed Kurdish militants in Syria, represented by the People's Protection Units (YPG, in its Kurdish acronym), for the bombing, and even arrested a Syrian woman who confessed to her affiliation with Kurdish organisations in Turkey and Syria.

From November 20, Turkey initiated "Operation Claw-Sword" with a series of bombings on Kurdish targets in both Syria and Iraq. Turkish attacks are directed at the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) that includes the YPG and, under American protection, controls large parts of northeast Syria. It has close ties with its domestic Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), which is viewed by Turkey as a terrorist organisation.

Since May last year, Turkey has been threatening to launch a military invasion against Kurdish positions in Syria. This has been postponed on Russian insistence, giving Turkey an opportunity to consider diplomatic options to serve its security interests.

The Russia-Turkey-Syria engagement

At the end of November, the Turkish President, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, after an earlier conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin, proposed a re-engagement with Syria, starting with meetings of Defence and Foreign Ministers, and culminating with a summit of the three leaders. With Mr. Erdoğan facing elections in June, there are domestic considerations in play as well. A tough anti-Kurd posture appeals to Turkey's nationalists, while improved relations with Damascus will facilitate the return of 3.7 million Syrian refugees whose presence has caused considerable unhappiness among the general Turkish population.

> It is being shaped by developments in Turkey and in Syria

The meeting of Defence Ministers took place in Moscow on December 28 – the first Minister-level meeting between Syria and Turkey since 2011. However, the complex issues that divide Syria and Turkey have become quickly apparent. Syrian media reported that Turkey had agreed to withdraw from territories that its forces occupy in northern Syria, and replaced by Syrian government forces. But Turkey has immediately clarified that while it has no designs on Syrian territory, its troops will withdraw only when there is no terrorist threat – a clear reference to the SDF.

Regional diplomatic implications

Amidst the Ukraine war, Turkey has continued its balancing act between the United States and Russia: it has supplied drones to Ukraine; but it has also facilitated agreements relating to grain supplies through the Bosphorus and has refused to join the Western sanctions on Russia.

Turkey and Russia continue to work closely together in Syria, though differences remain. On the question of the Kurds, the Russian and Syrian priority is to detach the Kurds from the U.S., curb their separatist aspirations, and ensure the integrity of Syria. They hope to address Turkey's demand for a 30-km "security zone" across the Syria-Turkey border by replacing Kurdish militia with Syrian government troops. However, Turkey has not disengaged itself so far from the extremists of the Hayat Tahreer al-Sham (HTS) that control the northern Idlib province, a crucial Russian and Syrian demand.

Some progress on the Kurd issue is apparent: in the face of Turkey's threats to invade Syria in November, the U.S. quickly evacuated its diplomatic personnel from the region, viewed as signalling little interest in protecting the Kurds. It is in this background that the leader of the SDF, Mazloum Abdi, has spoken publicly about the importance of Syrian unity and the need for "coordination with the Syrian army to prevent a Turkish occupation of Syria".

Outlook for Syria

Syria believes it has a much stronger hand than earlier. Syria is being increasingly included within the Arab fold: besides the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain having opened embassies in Damascus, in early December, a Syrian-Saudi dialogue took place in Riyadh over four days on combating extremism. Symbolically, the Syrian flag flew on Riyadh's streets during Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit (December 7-9). The kingdom has encouraged this rapprochement with Syria to ensure that Arab interests are not diluted under Turkish and Iranian influence.

The U.S. remains firmly opposed to the Russia-sponsored tripartite talks and the improvement of the regional states' ties with Syria. But it has little capacity to oppose Turkish initiatives in Syria or to provide effective support to the beleaguered Kurds. It retains 900 troops in northeast Syria, but has no idea regarding what purpose they are to serve. Again, Russia and Iran remain strong supporters of Syria's crucial interests – the eradication of HTS extremists at Idlib, the dilution of Kurdish aspirations for autonomy and the incorporation of the Kurds within the Syrian state, and the exit of the rump U.S. military presence in the northeast. Hence, Syria has so far shown no overt enthusiasm about high-level engagements with Turkey, hoping to obtain more firm Turkish guarantees relating to its interests. This is perhaps being facilitated by Iran: Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian met Mr. Erdoğan and his Turkish counterpart during his visit to Ankara on January 17, while the latter has said he could meet the Syrian Foreign Minister in early February.

These trends suggest that the coming year, after more than a decade, could see the slow return to peace in Syria.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pakistan's olive branch

Both India and Pakistan achieved Independence together. However, while India has marched steadily towards development, Pakistan has been steadily declining. Pakistan needs to do much more than calling for 'serious, sincere' talks (Page 1, January 18). Talks can be fruitful only if there are no preconditions attached. India has shown tremendous restraint and patience in traversing the path of peace and harmony. It is for Pakistan to gain the trust of India through sincere and open actions.

Balasubramaniam Pavani,
Secunderabad

The offer is a case of double-speak and hypocrisy. It was only recently that Pakistan's Foreign Minister made unsavoury remarks about India and its leader. With no cessation in cross-border terrorist activities, extending the olive branch is nothing but a farce. This newfound 'peace-seeking initiative' is suspicious especially after Pakistan has been removed from the FATF listing.

A.V. Narayanan,
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

Besides the Indus Waters Treaty (1960), nothing has worked well for the two neighbours. Each country should recognise the customary rules of international law based on the UNGA resolution 2625 on "friendly relations and cooperation among states". Pakistan's relations with China remain an irritant.

Manas Agarwal,
Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh

Gory 'sport'

Come Pongal every year and rural Tamil Nadu begins its encounter with danger — *jallikattu* and fatal gorings of spectators and tamers. Any attempt of control during the proceedings is ineffective given the gory nature of the sport. An outright ban seems to be the only solution, however tough it may be. Is anyone listening?

Sharada Sivaram,
Kochi, Kerala

Corrections & Clarifications

A reader pointed out that in the graph that accompanied the report headlined "In a landmark shift, China's population declines in 2022" (January 18, 2023), the population marks of India and South Africa had been erroneously placed on the same line. India's mark is on the line above.

The Readers' Editor's office can be contacted by Telephone: +91-44-28418297/28576300; E-mail:readerseditor@thehindu.co.in

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

The futility of underbalancing China

Happymon Jacob

is the founder of Council for Strategic and Defence Research, and teaches at the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

One of the most disquieting puzzles the Indian strategic community has been confronted with since 2020 are the sources of New Delhi's underbalancing behaviour towards China. A lot has been written, not without reason, about the domestic political compulsions behind the BJP-led government's chaotic China policy. And yet, does the answer to India's underbalancing behaviour lay solely in domestic political considerations?

More so, how exactly should we characterise India's underbalancing behaviour vis-à-vis the China threat? Does it amount to buckpassing (hoping someone else will deal with it), appeasement of the source of the threat itself (China), hiding from the threat altogether, or is it a combination of all these? Will going easy on China moderate China's aggression? Or does New Delhi think that ignoring the China threat will make it disappear eventually?

India's response to threat

To begin with, there is a growing consciousness within the government and the larger strategic community in India that China is a threat to India's national security. There has been a clear shift of focus from the Line of Control (LoC) to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and the consequent force redeployment has been considerable. There has also been some decisive effort to curtail India's tech-coupling with China. And yet, there doesn't appear to be a comprehensive assessment of the China threat, and an evaluation of potential Indian responses. What is missing is an unambiguous political commitment to meet the China threat. New Delhi's China strategy is akin to closing one's eyes and pretending it is dark around.

Needless to say, that the heart of the Indian approach is based on the belief that balancing China is fraught with risks. To begin with, it is neither possible nor desirable for India to actively man the entire LAC with China. Secondly, responding to China could potentially spread the fight, thereby creating more flashpoints on the LAC, something New Delhi wants to avoid. Thirdly, India's underbalancing behaviour is also a result of the uncertain outcomes of a military escalation with a superior power.

And yet, there are also significant risks in the current strategy of underbalancing China. For one, given the absence of active Indian responses, a far more powerful China is likely to increase the tempo of its territorial pursuits. More so, underbalancing China also entails a lack of political clarity regarding the China threat and the articulation of redlines to meet that threat. This, in turn, leads to an uncertainty about what India's friends and partners could or would do for India if there is a standoff with China.

There seems to be a strong strand of thinking in New Delhi that we should wait to build our capability to take on the China threat. But such a strategy of 'threat postponement' is based on misplaced optimism as China will continue to grow stronger than India. And by the time India catches up, if ever, it would be too late to take back the lost territory.

There may be some merit in the hypothesis that if there is no clear political articulation, China could exploit the policy confusion in New Delhi and keep probing the borders. But does unambiguous political articulation of the China threat and setting redlines by New Delhi help? Theoretically yes, but doing so is not without dangers.

The most important problem with clarity and articulation is an unavoidable commitment trap – if you do not follow through, your threats are hollow, thereby further emboldening China. But the most challenging part of articulating the source of threat and setting redlines is the danger of escalation. So New Delhi's dilemma is this: while escalation is replete with uncertainty, non-escalation comes with slow but certain loss of territory.

India's options

In other words, while domestic political calculation might be prompting the government to insufficiently acknowledge the China threat, there are also other 'understandable' reasons behind the current strategy of underbalancing China. So, what indeed are New Delhi's options in order to deal with the China threat?

One, potential strategy is calibrated escalation. New Delhi could employ a tit-for-tat strategy and consider occupying unmanned areas on the Chinese side. This is doable, but India must be prepared for similar actions from the Chinese side. Two, New Delhi could further raise the economic costs for China by reducing high tech Chinese imports in select areas. Three, it is perhaps an opportune moment for New Delhi to consider nuclear modernisation and perhaps even develop low yield weapons. Why not retest its thermonuclear weapons to strengthen its nuclear deterrence, thereby sending a message to Beijing?

Four, notwithstanding the accuracy of the argument that India's growing strategic partnership with the U.S. is the reason behind China's aggression, China's aggression is indeed a good reason for New Delhi to strengthen its strategic partnership with the U.S. and the West. We must become more open and forthcoming about it. There must be more clarity on how India's key strategic partnerships and defence agreements will come to its aid in the event of an escalatory situation with China. That Beijing will go easy on New Delhi if the latter goes slow with Washington is a dangerous expectation in the garb of a lazy argument. Underbalancing China has not helped, and it is now time to devise strategies to balance the China threat.

India needs clarity on how its key strategic partnerships and defence agreements will come to its aid in the event of an escalatory situation with China

The fragile edifice of the MVA troika

The upcoming MLC polls highlight the poor coordination between MVA partners

STATE OF PLAY

Shoumojit Banerjee
shoumojit.banerjee@thehindu.co.in

The contretemps over the Nashik graduates' constituency seat in the upcoming Maharashtra Legislative Council (MLC) polls have not only exposed the raging factionalism within the Maharashtra Congress, but cast a shadow over the future tenability of the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi troika of the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), the Congress and the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena faction.

Last week, the Congress' (and the MVA's) chosen candidate for the Nashik seat, three-time MLC Sudhir Tambe, abruptly withdrew his nomination, while his son, Satyajeet Tambe – a former Maharashtra Youth Congress president – announced his candidature as an Independent.

Mr. Satyajeet, while stressing he remained a Congress loyalist, said he would seek support of all parties, including the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The Congress high command, accusing the father-son duo of 'deceiving' the party, has instituted disciplinary action against them.

But the implications of the Tambes' rebellion go far beyond immediate local consequences. Mr. Satyajeet is the nephew of senior Congressman and former Revenue Minister Balasaheb Thorat.

According to sources, the affinity between Mr. Satyajeet and the BJP increased after the former was miffed at the party's neglect of his aspirations, and reportedly upset over Mr. Thorat promoting his daughter Jayashree Thorat.

The schism between uncle and nephew mirrors the cracks within the Maharashtra Congress, while having a domino effect on the relations of the Congress vis-a-vis the NCP and the Thackeray Sena.

The Tambe revolt, which caught the Congress napping, has now led to the Nashik seat – a sure winner for the party – being ceded to the Thackeray camp in exchange for the Nagpur teachers' constituency seat, which was initially allotted to the Thackeray Sena. This swap essentially weakens prospects for both parties in these seats, where neither is particularly strong.

The Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) has privately expressed its chagrin at the exchange. With the MVA in a spot in Nashik and Nagpur, the ruling BJP is in the driver's seat in the upcoming elections to the five MLC seats, to be held on January 30.

The Nashik fiasco again raises the bogey of 'poor coordination' between the MVA partners. The litany of embarrassments faced by the tripartite collation can be traced from the Rajya Sabha polls to six seats in Maharashtra in June last year, when the MVA government – under then CM Uddhav Thackeray – was in power.

Going by each party's numbers, the BJP was set to win two, the Congress and the NCP were slated to win one each, and the Shiv Sena the remaining two. Yet, the BJP led by Devendra Fadnavis rattled the MVA by scoring a surprise victory on the sixth Rajya Sabha seat by securing support of Independent MLAs believed to be loyal to the MVA.

While bitter recrimination ensued within the MVA after the RS poll result, worse was to follow: a few days later, the BJP managed to get all of their five candidates elected in the MLC polls for 10 seats.

The three MVA parties, each fielding two candidates, were expected to win six. However, the Congress' second candidate crashed, leading to accusations of cross-voting within the party in favour of the BJP's fifth candidate. The twin poll debacles were then capped that month with Shiv Sena leader Eknath Shinde's biggest intra-party revolt splitting the Sena, and bringing down the Thackeray-led MVA.

Now, Mr. Satyajeet's revolt has raised the spectre of a Congress exodus ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha and Maharashtra Assembly elections. Party insiders say that ticket distribution continues to plague the Congress, with the party preferring the same old faces, while neglecting youthful aspirations.

Compounding this is the leadership of current Maharashtra Congress chief Nana Patole – a former BJP man who is perceived an 'outsider' by senior Congressmen like Mr. Thorat and Ashok Chavan.

The Nashik fiasco has proved serious enough for NCP chief Sharad Pawar to comment that systematic handling might have prevented the controversy. With poor co-ordination dogging the MVA for the better part of 2022, the three parties – particularly the Congress – need to work harder if they are to take on the might of the BJP and the Shinde Sena.

Fizz and fries in daily diet of many in northeast, east and Goa

According to NFHS-5, close to 80% men and women in Mizoram consumed fried food daily

DATA POINT

Rebecca Rose Varghese
Vignesh Radhakrishnan

Consumption of fried foods and aerated drinks is relatively higher in Goa, many Northeastern and eastern States as compared to the rest of India, according to data from the National Family and Health Survey (NFHS)-5 conducted in 2019-21. According to the survey, over 22% men drank aerated drinks daily in Goa, while close to 10% women did so in Assam. In Mizoram, about 83% of women consumed fried food daily, while close to 38% men did so in Odisha.

The dietary patterns in these States are worrying since regular consumption of such foods is linked to chronic diseases. According to the WHO's Department for the Prevention of Noncommunicable diseases, consumption of added sugar, including products such as aerated drinks, is a major factor behind obesity and diabetes. In 2016, the WHO-recommended policies led to a 20% increase in the retail price of sugary drinks, which led to a reduction in consumption of such products.

Studies by the Harvard School of Public Health showed that people who ate fried food at least once a week were at a greater risk of developing both type 2 diabetes and heart disease. This risk increased as the frequency of fried food consumption rose. Moreover, consuming fried food made out of used oil is also a factor in developing higher blood pressure and increased triglyceride levels. The cluster of conditions such as high blood pressure, high random glucose levels and high triglyceride levels are defined as "metabolic syndrome". The condition increases the risk of developing heart disease, diabetes, stroke, or all three.

Moreover, the burden of related diseases is already high in India. In 2019, with an estimated 77 million diabetics, India recorded the second-largest number of diabetes cases in the world. Between 1990 and 2019, India recorded the biggest increase in diabetes-related deaths from 78,789 such deaths in 1990 to 2,73,089 fatalities in 2019.

Charts 1A and **1B** depict the State-wise share of daily consumption of aerated drinks among men and women respectively in 2019-21, against the change in the share from 2015-16. For instance, 7.9% of men in Meghalaya consumed aerated drinks daily, increasing by 6.5% points from 2015-16 – the biggest rise among all States. Among women, the share of those who consumed aerated drinks daily in Assam was 9.7%, increasing by 3.6% points from 2015-16. Notably, other than Goa and some northeastern States, Himachal Pradesh, and Jammu & Kashmir also had a higher share of men and women consuming aerated drinks daily.

Charts 2A and **2B** depict the State-wise share of daily consumption of fried food among men and women respectively in 2019-21, against the change in the share from 2015-16. Mizoram ranked at the top of the list among both men and women. In 2019-21, 78.6% of men in Mizoram consumed fried food daily as opposed to 89.5% in 2015-16. Among women in the State, 82.9% of them ate fried food, a decrease of 3.8% points from 2015-16.

A relatively higher share of men in Goa and women in Assam consumed both aerated drinks and fried food daily, a combination that further increased the risk of chronic diseases. While the daily consumption levels are higher in some States, in general across many States, levels have come down in 2019-21 as compared to 2015-16. Among men, those who consumed aerated drinks daily declined in 18 of 29 States, while among women, it decreased in 14 States. Among men, those who consumed fried food daily declined in 17 of 29 States, while among women it decreased in 18 States.

Food for thought

The charts are based on data sourced from the National Family and Health Survey-5 (NFHS) conducted between 2019 and 2021 and NFHS-4 conducted in 2015-16

Northeast East West South North Central

Chart 1A and 1B | The charts depict the State-wise share of daily consumption of **aerated drinks** among men and women respectively in 2019-21, against the change in the share from 2015-16

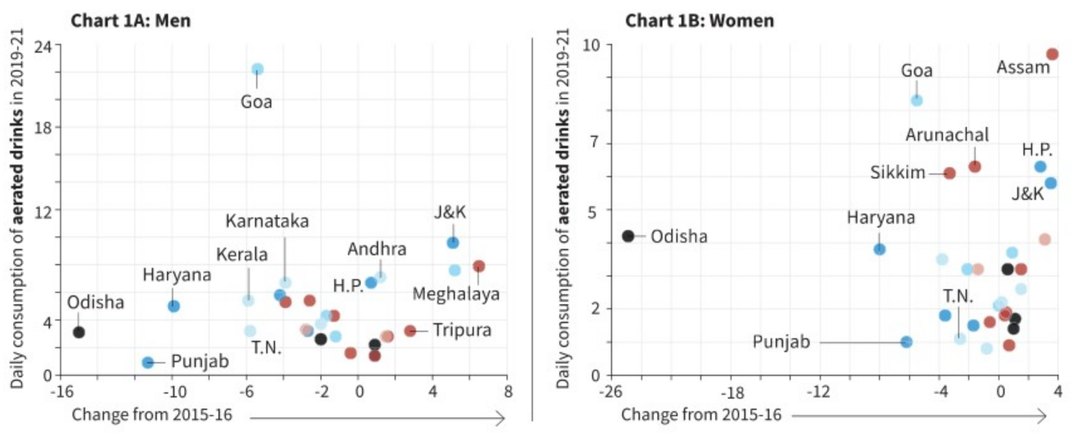
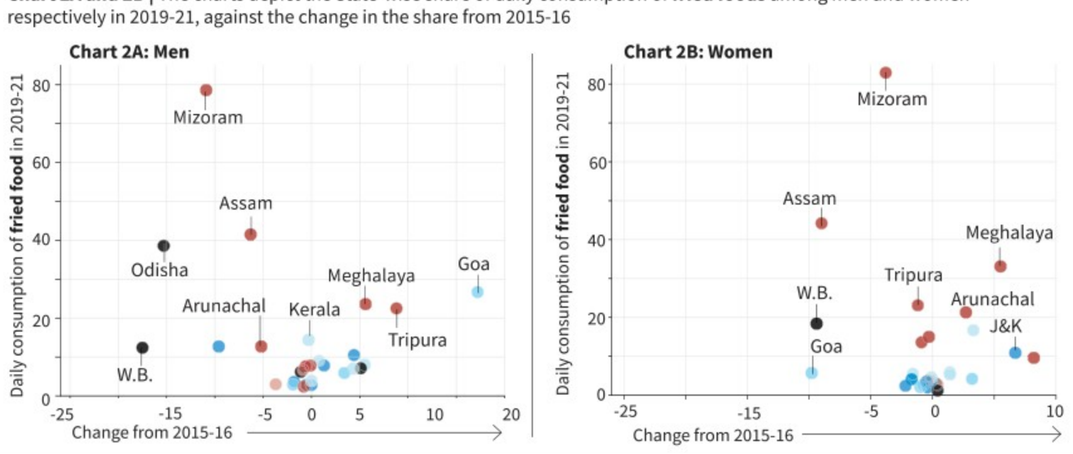


Chart 2A and 2B | The charts depict the State-wise share of daily consumption of **fried foods** among men and women respectively in 2019-21, against the change in the share from 2015-16



FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JANUARY 19, 1973

Evidence of life on Mars in the past

Washington, Jan. 18: America's Mariner-9 space probe has produced new evidence that water – an essential prerequisite of life – once flowed abundantly in river on Mars, scientists reported yesterday. Life could not exist on the planet now because it is too cold, but Mars might have supported life forms in the past and could do so again when it becomes warmer, the scientists believe. The unmanned Mariner-9 probe to Mars went into orbit around the planet in late 1971, and for almost a year sent back a stream of scientific information. Scientists who spent months studying the information reported enthusiastically at a press conference that they had a growing volume of evidence that there are channels of apparent fluid origin on the Martian surface. They said the channels may record the flowing of water on the surface during the last inter-glacial episode. Because Mars has an irregular surface, it has cycles of warmer and colder temperatures. There are in fact several temperature cycles – one occurring every 50,000 years, another every 90,000 years and a third every two million years, the scientists said. In this respect, Mars resembles earth, which was once far colder than it is to-day. Whatever the possibility that life existed or could exist again on Mars, the odds were much better now because of the presumed evidence of water, the scientists said.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JANUARY 19, 1923

The new party

Bombay, Jan. 18: The managing committee of the Bombay National Union has passed a resolution expressing extreme disappointment and dissatisfaction at the failure of the Congress to give a correct lead to the country by its resolution on boycott of councils and requesting the All-India Congress Committee to convene a special session of the Congress to reconsider that resolution. Another resolution expressed the opinion of the Union that the re-affirmation of the boycott of law courts and Government, aided educational institutions in the face of the nation's clear inclination not to observe them but lower the prestige of the Congress in the eye of the world. The last resolution pledged the Union's wholehearted support to the new Congress Khilafat Swaraj Party.

From Page One

Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland to vote in Feb.

After its failed attempt in Goa, the Trinamool is investing its energies in Meghalaya and Tripura.

While the BJP so far is only a junior partner in the governments in Nagaland and Meghalaya, it is trying to expand its footprint. BJP president J.P. Nadda, in his recent address at the party's national executive, called upon its members to ensure the victory of the party in all the nine Assembly elections scheduled for this year.

The three State Assemblies have a strength of 60 members each. While the term of the Nagaland Assembly ends on March 12, the terms of the Meghalaya and Tripura Assemblies end on March 15 and March 22, respectively.

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar pointed out a "happy trend" in the three States. "In the last Assembly elections, in Nagaland, 86% women voted as against 81% males, in Meghalaya 87% women voters as against 83% males, and 91% women voters in Tripura as against 87% males," Mr. Kumar said, adding that this is a goal that other States should also aspire for.

With regard to the byelections, the EC said Lakshadweep will go to the polls due to the disqualification of NCP leader Mohammed Faizal P.P. after he was convicted in an attempt-to-murder case. Congress leader Mamta Devi's disqualification necessitated the byelection to Jharkhand's Ramgarh Assembly seat. In the remaining seats – Tamil Nadu's Erode East, West Bengal's Sagardighi, Arunachal Pradesh's Lumla, Maharashtra's Kasba Peth and Chinchwad – the vacancy arose because of the death of the incumbent legislator.

At BRS meet, KCR vows to end 'misrule' of BJP

The party's aim is to implement the Telangana government's landmark schemes – free power supply to farmers, Rythu Bandhu, Dalit Bandhu and piped drinking water for every household – in the country, Mr. Rao said.

Launching a scathing attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Mr. Rao alleged that farmer suicides were continuing unabated in the country under the present regime. The BJP dispensation at the Centre had earned notoriety for its anti-farmer and pro-corporate policies, leaving farmers and common man in distress, he added.

Despite the availability of abundant natural resources, the country was lagging behind in all spheres due to the incompetency of the BJP government, he said, adding that the BJP and the Congress were trying to shift the blame on each other for the dismal conditions in the country.

The BRS proposed 35% reservation for women in legislative bodies and abolition of the Agnipath scheme for armed forces, he said. The BRS agenda, which was being worked out by a team of retired IAS officers and retired judges, would be made public soon, he said.

Taking a dig at Mr. Modi, he said, "The Make-in-India initiative has become a joke. The BJP regime is hell-bent on selling public sector undertakings, including Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and the LIC."

Mr. Vijayan said the BJP government was blatantly violating Constitutional provisions, undermining the country's federal structure and misusing the offices of Governors.

Judicial probe ordered into J&K Sidhra encounter

The Hindu Bureau
JAMMU

The Jammu and Kashmir government has ordered a magisterial probe into the encounter in the Sidhra area in Jammu in which four heavily armed unidentified militants, travelling on a truck towards Srinagar, were killed on December 28.

Assistant Commissioner, Jammu, Piyush Dhotra has been appointed the inquiry officer to conduct the investigation.

He has asked eyewitnesses to record their statements.

"In order to conduct inquiry in a fair and transparent manner, anyone having any information can come to the office and record his or her statement from today till January 21," he said.

According to the police, seven AK assault rifles, one M4 rifle, three pistols and a large quantity of ammunition were seized at the encounter site.

'Objectives of SIMI against basic fabric of Constitution'

SIMI aims to mobilise students/youth in the propagation of Islam and obtain support for jihad, the Centre tells Supreme Court in its affidavit, while listing reasons for banning the organisation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Students Islamic Movement of India (SIMI) is mobilising Muslim support to create a "caliphate", it wants to replace Indian nationalism with an "international Islamic order" and considers idol worship a "sin", the Union Home Ministry has listed objectives before the Supreme Court for banning the organisation.

A petition seeking to revoke a July 2019 ban on SIMI as an unlawful association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 came before a Bench led by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul on Wednesday. The court adjourned the hearing.

The Home Ministry, in an affidavit, said the objectives of SIMI was against the basic fabric of Constitution.

> SIMI is influenced by and used by various fundamentalist Islamic terrorist organisations operating *inter alia* from the State of J&K
>
> **CENTRE'S AFFIDAVIT IN SUPREME COURT**

"SIMI aims to mobilise students/youth in the propagation of Islam and obtain support for jihad. The organisation also emphasises on the formation of *Shariat* based Islamic rule through *Islami Inqalab*. The organisation does not believe in nation-state or in the Indian Constitution, including its secular nature. It further regards idol worship as a sin, and propagates its 'duty' to end such practices," the affidavit said.

The Centre said the financial situation of SIMI was "sound", with donations and memberships from Gulf countries. The funds received within the country can be broadly classified in two different heads; *jhakat*/donation and funds by robberies and dacoities.

Wide reach

"SIMI through its members has contacts in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh and Nepal. Being an organisation for students/youth, SIMI is influenced by and used by various fundamentalist Islamic terrorist organisations operating *inter alia* from the State of Jammu & Kashmir," the affidavit said.

Terrorist organisations such as Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM) and Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) have successfully managed to penetrate into the SIMI cadres to achieve their anti-national goals. It is active in States including Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and West Bengal.

It has regrouped under names such as 'Wahadat-e-Islami' in Tamil Nadu; 'Indian Mujahideen' in Rajasthan, Karnataka, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Delhi; 'Ansarullah' in Karnataka; 'Muslim Muttahida Mihad' in Uttar Pradesh; 'Wahadat-e-Ummat' in Madhya Pradesh; and 'Nagarik Adhikar Suraksha Manch' in West Bengal, it said.

Dhami meets Shah, seeks support in Joshimath

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami met Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi on Wednesday to discuss the status of rehabilitation work being carried out in Joshimath, where land subsidence has damaged houses. Mr. Dhami requested the Home Minister for the Union government's assistance in disaster relief as rehabilitation has to be carried out at the earliest.

Mr. Dhami said Uttarakhand was gearing up for the Char Dham Yatra in April, and people should refrain from projecting that "everything is sinking" in Joshimath and elsewhere in the State.

The annual Char Dham Yatra economy is estimated at ₹7,500 crore and contributes the most to the State's coffers.

Mr. Dhami told presspersons that the Home Minister had assured him of all necessary help.

Kashmir solution lies in Constitution, says Mehbooba, Omar

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti and National Conference (NC) vice-president Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said any solution to the Kashmir issues lay within the Constitution.

Speaking in Srinagar, Ms. Mufti said any dialogue or reconciliation on Kashmir should start with restoring all that was snatched on August 5, 2019.

'Better ties'

"People of Jammu and Kashmir believe that they joined hands with India [in 1947] on certain values like secularism and democracy. Any solution to Kashmir lies within the Indian Constitution, which had granted us a special position," Ms. Mufti said.

Responding to a question on Pakistan Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif's recent offer to hold dialogue with India, Ms. Mufti said, "The PDP is for better ties and dialogue between India and Pakistan. We wish to see a greater movement of people and goods between India and Pakistan."

Mr. Abdullah, who was addressing a workers' meeting in Srinagar, said his party always stood by its stand and saw a solution in the Indian constitution.

"Many separatist leaders have now started liking the Indian Constitution. We will get everything here [in India]. Many of our workers died for this stand and are still being harassed," Mr. Abdullah said.

NCM chief claims Jains pacified by govt. decision on Sammed Shikhar

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union and the Jharkhand governments have jointly decided that Sammed Shikhar will remain a place of pilgrimage, National Commission of Minorities (NCM) Chairman Iqbal Singh Lalpura said on Wednesday, adding that the decision has brought peace among the Jain community.

Reacting to the NCM's statement, members of the Vishwa Jain Sanghathan (VJS) said that they were neither happy nor satisfied with the developments so far.

"The Government of India and the Jharkhand government told us during the hearing held on Tuesday that the Sammed Shikhar will remain a 'religious place'," Mr. Lalpura told presspersons. The decision of the governments has pacified the Jain community, he said.

Massive strike: Members of the Jain community participating in a protest in Hyderabad for saving the Parasnath hills. NAGARA GOPAL

'Objections remain'

Reacting to this, VJS president Sanjay Jain told *The Hindu* that the Jain community would continue its protest until the government not just declared the Sammed Shikhar and Madhuban hills as a 'religious place' but also removed it from the ecosensitive zone. "The commission has asked us to give our objection in a week. We will give the same," he added.

Meanwhile, the NCM chief also said that the commission would be sending a team to Haldwani to meet the protesting people who have been asked to vacate the land, said to be owned by the Railways.

"The NCM team will speak to the people from minority communities in Haldwani's Gafoor Basti who have been asked to vacate their homes by the Railway authorities. After taking stock of the situation, we will talk to the government about what can be done on the ground," said Mr. Lalpura, adding that the government must ensure that no one goes homeless.

In the past one month, the National Commission for Minorities has received 168 petitions, out of which 73 have been disposed of.

Cong. MP flays Tejasvi Surya for 'childish behaviour'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Congress leader and Lok Sabha member Manickam Tagore on Wednesday took to Twitter to say that he would raise the airline incident involving BJP leader Tejasvi Surya at the next meeting of a parliamentary panel on civil aviation.

Mr. Surya found himself at the centre of another controversy after it emerged that he had opened the emergency exit door on an IndiGo flight from Chennai to Tiruchirapalli last month.

"Will raise this matter in the coming Parliament session. It's about the safety of the passengers that was at risk because of the childish behaviour of MP and BJP State chief," the Congress MP tweeted.

Defending Mr. Surya, Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said the door opened by mistake.

Though the flight was delayed by two hours, the airline downplayed the incident. Aviation safety regulator, the DGCA said that the incident did not compromise passenger safety.

Refer L-G issue to seven-judge Bench, Centre submits in SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Centre and the State government are contesting for power over civil servants in Delhi

The Centre on Wednesday surprised the Supreme Court by seeking a reference of the Lieutenant-Governor versus AAP regime dispute to a larger Bench of seven judges.

"We may not be remembered in history for having handed over the national capital to a complete anarchy," Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, for the Centre, told a five-judge Bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud.

The Centre's move came a day after it completed oral arguments before the Bench. Mr. Mehta's request came as senior advocate A.M. Singhvi, for the Delhi government, was about to begin his closing submissions.

The Bench reserved the case for judgment immediately after Mr. Singhvi completed his rejoinder in which he said the court should lay down in "black and white" the contours of power between the Delhi government and the Centre.

"A plea for reference to a larger Bench has to be argued at the very outset... You never argued it. Had you, we would have looked at the case very differently... You cannot argue it now when Mr. Singhvi is in a rejoinder... We would have even finished hearing this case yesterday," Chief Justice Chandrachud said.

The last few days of hearings in the case had seen the Centre face tough questions from the Constitution Bench, including one by Chief Justice Chandrachud about "the point of having an elected government in Delhi if the administration of the national capital is supposed to be carried out at the beck-and-call of the Centre".

Mr. Singhvi said the plea for reference by the Centre was an "ambush".

The court however allowed the Centre to give its note on the point of reference.

Fewer VIP invites, 32,000 seats for the general public at Republic Day parade

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

From over one lakh seats in the previous editions, the Republic Day parade here this time will have only around 45,000. A reorganisation of the seating arrangement and a massive cut in number of invitations to VIPs and officials led to the fall.

Of the 45,000 seats, 32,000 have been opened for the general public, Rajesh Ranjan, Joint Secretary (Ceremonial), Defence Ministry, told presspersons on Wednesday. All the invitations went online.

"The participation of the public in these programmes is the main theme of this year. We tried to tailor the event in such a fashion," Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane said.

Like last year, the Republic Day celebrations will begin on January 23, coinciding with Parakram Parv, which marks the birth anniversary of Subhas Chandra Bose, and end on January 30, Martyrs Day.

During the parade, a 120-member Egyptian Armed Forces contingent will march on Kartavya Path as the chief guest, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El Sisi, looks on.

Brisk training: Assam Rifles personnel marching past during a rehearsal for the Republic Day parade on Kartavya Path. PTI

The flypast will see 50 aircraft and helicopters of which 23 will be fighter jets, Wing Commander Indranil Nandi, spokesperson of the Indian Air Force Western Air Command, said in a briefing.

At the Beating Retreat ceremony on January 29, there was never seating for the general public and the attendance was by invitation.

However, this year 10%, or around 1,200 seats, have been opened for the public, Mr. Ranjan said.

On tableau selection for the Republic Day parade, which has been a touchy issue with some States in the past, Mr. Aramane said the selection has been done in a very "systematic fashion".

"We tried to involve the State governments, made the process transparent and made available to them the criteria of selection. So that it becomes a celebration of the Union of States," he said.

Special invites have been sent to common people from all walks of society such as the *shramyogis* involved in the construction of the Central Vista.

Central panel asks Arunachal to review hydropower project

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) of the Union Environment Ministry has asked the Arunachal Pradesh government to submit a revised request for permission to divert 1,165 hectares of forest land in the State's Dibang valley for the Etalin hydropower project.

The FAC's rationale was that there was widespread local opposition to the project and this ought to be addressed more comprehensively by the State government. The original proposal was sent way back in 2014 and it was "imperative" to review estimates on the number of trees that needed to be felled. There were also "concerns" regarding the biodiversity and protection of wildlife and this needed further assessment and safeguards to be incorporated. In its 2014 estimate, the diversion of forest area would mean the felling of close to 2,80,000 trees.

Moreover, in the earlier approved projects where forest clearance had been accorded, there was a "poor record" of compliance with the conditions stipulated by the FAC. In light of this, the FAC requested the State government to review the status of all approved projects and the extent of their compliance with FAC recommendations and submit a status report to the Environment Ministry at the earliest, the record noted.

List of projects

The Etalin hydropower project is a joint-venture between Jindal Power and Hydro Power Development Corporation of Arunachal Pradesh Limited.

The Arunachal Pradesh government has been promoting a slew of hydropower projects with several involving private companies. However, many of them have come unstuck or interminably delayed with cost escalation and local protests. The State government has recently handed over the execution of some stalled projects to Central Public Sector Units.

5 Meghalaya MLAs quit to change party colours

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Five Meghalaya MLAs, including Public Health Engineering Minister Renikton Lyngdoh Tongkhar, resigned from the Assembly and their parties just hours before the Election Commission announced the election schedule for three northeastern States on Wednesday.

Mr. Tongkhar quit the Hill State People's Democratic Party (HSPDP) and joined the United Democratic Party (UDP), both constituents of the coalition government in Meghalaya headed by the National People's Party.

Trinamool Congress MLA Shitlang Pale, suspended Congress MLA Mayralborn Syiem and Independent MLA Lambor Malngiang also joined the UDP. Another suspended Congress MLA, Process T. Sawkmie, is set to join the UDP as well.

10 injured in poll-related violence in Tripura

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

At least 10 persons, including All India Congress Committee observer and former bureaucrat Ajay Kumar, were injured when BJP workers allegedly threw stones at riders during a bike rally by the Congress in poll-bound Tripura on Wednesday.

The incident happened in Jirania, about 25 km from State capital Agartala.

The BJP, however, claimed that the Congress workers turned violent during the rally and attacked its party members. The police said they were looking into the matter.

Trinamool is the only credible alternative in Meghalaya: Mamata

She urges voters to dislodge the 'proxy BJP government' in the State, hinting that it was being remote-controlled by the Assam Chief Minister

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said on Wednesday that the Trinamool Congress was the only alternative to the "proxy BJP government" in Meghalaya that was remote-controlled from Guwahati.

Launching her party's poll campaign in Meghalaya, she did not take any name but made it clear that her target of attack was Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, who, the parties opposed to the Bharatiya Janata Party say, dictates terms to the National People's Party (NPP)-led coalition government in Meghalaya.

The BJP is a minor ally of the NPP in the Meghalaya government but the two parties do not have any pre-poll understanding. The election to the 60-member Meghalaya Assembly is scheduled for February 27.

Addressing a rally at Mendipathar in the Garo Hills region, Ms. Banerjee urged people to dislodge the "proxy government" led by the NPP's Conrad K. Sangma. "If you want to change the present corrupt and discredited government, you should remember that there is no other credible alternative to the Trinamool. We know how to fight," the Trinamool chairperson said. "I fought the Left Front hard when I was in the Congress but it did not give me any protection. You cannot imagine how I was tortured and the kind of political situation I faced," she said.

Poll beats: Trinamool chief Mamata Banerjee with tribal artists during an election rally in Meghalaya on Wednesday. PTI

She said the Sangma government in Meghalaya had done nothing over the past five years and dared it to show its report card before making any claims. "If you want a government that will empower you and uphold your culture, then remove the proxy BJP government, which is corrupt and has not done anything for the people, and vote the Trinamool to power," she said.

This was Ms. Banerjee's second visit to Meghalaya in about a month. It came a day after the fourth Trinamool legislator, Shitlang Pale, resigned from the Assembly and joined the United Democratic Party, a regional constituent of the NPP-led alliance.

While two MLAs of the Trinamool joined the NPP a few days ago, the third joined the BJP.

The Trinamool had no base in Meghalaya but 12 Congress MLAs, led by former Chief Minister Mukul Sangma, crossed over in November 2021, making it the State's principal Opposition party overnight. The party now has eight MLAs left, four of them within the family of Mukul Sangma.

Modi is 'supreme' and 'most popular leader' of the world, says BJP

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

It said India emerged as a 'protector of the world's future' under Narendra Modi's leadership

Prime Minister Narendra Modi "is the supreme and the most popular leader of not only the country but also of the world", read the text of the political resolution passed by the BJP at a two-day meet of its national executive that concluded in New Delhi on Tuesday.

The text of the political resolution, which was passed on Monday, was only released on Wednesday.

It said India had emerged as a "protector of the world's future" under Mr. Modi's leadership.

India, by getting the chairmanship of the G-20 and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation under Mr. Modi's leadership, had scripted "new chapters" in the country's history, the resolution said.

The whole world had now become aware of India's strength and capabilities which were truly displayed during the COVID-19 crisis and the Russia-Ukraine war, the resolution said, adding that India led the world when it came to protecting humanity and conserving environment and nature.

It said that under the "powerful and visionary" leadership of Mr. Modi, India had emerged as a decisive, far-sighted and strong nation.

J&K parties enthused about Bharat Jodo Yatra arrival today

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Jammu and Kashmir's Opposition parties, including the National Conference (NC) and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), were enthused on Wednesday to walk with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi during the last leg of his Bharat Jodo Yatra in the Union Territory from January 19 to 30.

Former J&K Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, also president of the NC, is scheduled to receive and walk with Mr. Gandhi once he enters the Union Territory at Lakhanpur in Jammu on Thursday.

His son, Omar Abdullah, is likely to walk with Mr. Gandhi in the Kashmir Valley. Senior Communist Party of India (Marxist) leader M.Y. Tarigami will join the yatra in Jammu. "I think the yatra brings an important message of unity and the need to fight against divisive forces. Kashmir had set the benchmark for this in 1947 while the rest of the country, including parts of Jammu, were swept by communal violence," Mr. Omar Abdullah said.

In the Kashmir Valley, the Muftis, including PDP president and former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti, her mother, Gulshan Nazir, and daughter Iltija, will also walk with Mr. Gandhi.

"In this stifling environment where every resident of J&K suffers only because it's a Muslim majority State, Rahul Gandhi's walk of peace with a message of love and brotherhood is a welcome change," Ms. Iltija said.

Manpreet Singh Badal quits Congress over 'disappointing attitude', joins BJP

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Punjab Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal joined the BJP on Wednesday, hours after quitting the Congress over what he termed as a "disappointing" attitude within the party towards the State and factionalism within the leadership.

Mr. Badal joined the BJP at the party's headquarters in New Delhi in the presence of Union Minister Piyush Goyal and party general secretary Tarun Chugh.

Mr. Badal, who is the nephew of Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) patriarch Parkash Singh Badal, began his political career in 1995 by winning the Gidderbaha byelection as part of the SAD. He later floated his own outfit, the Punjab People's Party, before merging it with the Congress.

Addressing the media, Mr. Badal attributed his joining the BJP to his meeting with Union Home Minister Amit Shah. "I have been in politics for 30 years. A few days ago, I met a tiger who was the Home Minister of India, he told me that Punjab has been attacked 400 times. His statement that 'we will do everything for Punjab' touched me and I am always concerned for Punjab and the future of Punjab," he said.

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र / VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण ग्रुप / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
तिरुवनंतपुरम / THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – 22 / (फोन नं. / Ph. No. 0471 - 2564568 / 5669 / 4537 / 4545)

ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करते हुए संक्षिप्त सूचना / BRIEF NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, सम्मिश्र श्रेणी के अधीन निम्नलिखित कार्य के लिए ई-टेंडरिंग द्वारा ऑनलाइन मद-दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। On behalf of the President of India, online item-rate tenders are invited through E-tendering for the following work under Composite Category.

कार्य का शीर्षक तथा ई-निविदा सूचना सं. / Title of work & E-Tender Notice No.	पी.ए.सी./P.A.C.
1. टर्ल्स, वीएसएससी, तुंबा में परीक्षण नियंत्रण एवं मूल्यांकन सुविधा (टी व ई सुविधा टी-234/4 के विस्तार) के लिए भवन का निर्माण तथा एएसओई पायरो परीक्षण स्थल, एसओजी का संवर्धन (सिविल, पीएच तथा विद्युत कार्य) / Construction of Building for Test Control & Evaluation Facility (Extension to T & E Facility T-234/4) and Augmentation of ASOE PYRO Test Site, SOG at TERLS, VSSC, Thumba (Civil, PH & Electrical works), NIT No. VSSC/CMG/C01/24/2022-23 Dt. 18.01.2023	रु./Rs. 990.65 लाख/Lakhs
डाउनलोड करने की अवधि/Period for downloading: दिनांक 19.01.2023, 10:00 बजे/hrs से/to दिनांक 01.02.2023, 23:00 बजे/hrs	

योग्यता मानदंड तथा अन्य ब्यौरों को पाने के लिए इच्छुक निविदाकार ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करते हुए विस्तृत सूचना (ई-एनआइटी) का अवलोकन करें, जिसे www.tenderwizard.in/isro or www.isro.gov.in से डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। / Interested tenderers may please refer detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (E-NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details, which can be downloaded from website www.tenderwizard.in/isro or www.isro.gov.in.

Sd/- ग्रुप निदेशक / Group Director, सीएमजी, वीएसएससी / CMG, VSSC

MISSING

Meenakshi aged 23 Years and Devooti Aged 3 years have been missing since 02.01.23 from their house, Pandarethu Veedu, Valiyakulangara, Oachira. The case (Crime Number 07/2023 U/s 57(A) of KP Act) is registered at Oachira Police Station. If anyone having any information about them should be contacted with the below mentioned numbers or the nearest police station.

Oachira Police Station : **0476 - 2690233**
Station House Officer : **9497947133**
L/O Sub Inspector : **9497980197**
RO/00164/F2/2023/I&PRD

Government of India
Ministry of Education Department of Higher Education
Technical Section VII
Advertisement for the post of DIRECTOR of INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION & RESEARCH (IISER), MOHALI

Applications are invited for the post of Director of the Indian Institute of Science Education & Research, Mohali (Punjab). The Director shall have a contractual tenure of appointment for five years, or until attaining the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier. The detailed advertisement and proforma for application is available on the Ministry of Education's website at: **https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Dir_iiser_mohali.pdf** as well as on the Institute's website : **https://www.iisermohali.ac.in**. The last date for receipt of applications is **13.03.2023.**

TAMIL NADU UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES CORPORATION LTD.,

NOTIFICATION

Tamil Nadu Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Corporation Ltd., in partnership with Dr. Kalam Advanced Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Research Centre, Centre for Aerospace Research (CASR), Madras Institute of Technology, Anna University has been registered under the Companies Act, a wholly Government owned Government of Tamil Nadu undertaking in order to cater the drone-based needs.

Now, the Company proposed to recruit **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** and the candidate must possess a Master Degree from a reputed University with proven track record of leadership, revenue generation.

Moreover, the candidate should be a Business Executive of CXO profile with minimum 15 years of experience out of which at least 5 years should be as a P & L Head. Knowledge in Drone policies, UAV & Drone Regulations of Civil Aviation and various facets its Management would be an added value.

The detailed notification has been updated in our website (www.tnuavcorp.com). The Eligible candidates may apply on or before 30.01.2023 by 5 PM.

Managing Director, TNUAVC

DIPR/43/DISPLAY/2023 சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : 40-41/2022-23/PHC/KNR, Jal Jeevan Mission - Kannur, Kasaragod District - Valapatanam Panchayath - Construction of service reservoirs, Laying distribution network and providing FHTCs in Azhikode, Chirakkal and Valapattanam panchayaths - Reach III, Chemmanad Panchayath - Laying distribution system and providing FHTCs **EMD :** Rs. 200000-500000, **Tender fee :** Rs. 13010-19518, **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 13-02-2023 02:00 pm, Phone : 04972705902, Website : **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

Superintending Engineer PH Circle, Kannur

KWA-JB-GL-6-1451-2022-23

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.
Ph.: 04324 - 277001 (10 Lines).

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due Date
222313 006347	720 GSM Kraft Crrugated Circular Disc (5 Ply) for Unit I & II	02.02.2023
222313 006348	Heavy Duty LDPE Shrink Film 70/80 Microns of various sizes for Unit I	02.02.2023
222313 006349	Hot Melt Gum - 214 for Copier Reel Pakcing	03.02.2023
222313 006352	Sodium Soap (Imported / Indigenous) required for Deinking Plant. **Quantity - 250 MT**	30.01.2023
222323 003898	Bleached Chemi Thermo Mechanical Pulp - Hardwood 80 for Unit - II	01.02.2023
222323 003897	Bleached Chemi Thermo Mechanical Pulp - Hardwood 70 for Unit - II	03.02.2023
222323 003896	Bleached Chemi Thermo Mechanical Pulp - Softwood 70 for Unit - II	06.02.2023
E-mail	**222313006347, 6348 & 6349 - purchase.packing@tnpl.co.in 222313006352 - purchase.wp@tnpl.co.in 222323003898, 222323003897 & 222323003896 - purchase.pulp@tnpl.co.in**	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC portal only. Detailed requirements, Period, Terms & conditions, Tender fee, EMD, etc., are available in tender document at our websites: **www.tnpl.com / www.tenders.tn.gov.in / www.tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

DIPR/335/Tender/2023 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்."

Office of the Project Director (Housing)
Rajasthan Urban Drinking Water Sewerage & Infrastructure Corporation Limited
4-Sa-24, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur-302004 (RAJ.)
Tel&fax : 0141-4001187, Email: rudsico.housing@rajasthan.gov.in

No. RUDSICO/PD (H.)/Jpr/2022-23/2493 **Date: 10.01.2023**

Notice Inviting Bid

Bids for Various Construction works at Dist. Sikar, Dungarpur, Alwar & Nallah at Sapotra dist. Karauli are invited from interested bidders up to up to 18:00hrs, 30.01.2023 for Item no. 1 under Two bid system & up to 18:00hrs, 20.01.2023 for Item no. 2 & 3 under single bid system on E-procurement for NIT 30/2022-23 and up to 18:00hrs 30.01.2023 for Item no. 1 under Two bid system on e-procurement work for NIT 31/2022-23. Other particulars of the Bid may be visited on the procurement portal (**http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**, **http://sppp.raj.nic.in**) of the state; and **http://urban.rajasthan.gov.in/rudsico** departmental website. The total approximate value of procurement is Rs. 1045.26 Lacs.

E-NIT No. 30/2022-23	E-NIT No. 31/2022-23
UBN- RDP2223WSOB00167, 168 & 169	UBN- RDP2223WLOB00170

Raj.Samwad/C/22/13368 **General Manager**

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.
Ph.: 04324 - 277001 (10 Lines). Email : purchase.wood@tnpl.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
222313 006325	Enlistment of Forest Contractors for felling, Debarking & Transportation of pulpwood from TAFCORN & FOREST DIVISIONS for the year 2023-24	06.02.2023
222313 006326	Enlistment of Vendors / Contractors for Execution of Farm Forestry & Captive Plantations and Felling & Transportation of Pulpwood from Farmers field during 2023-24	07.02.2023

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL website only. Interested vendors who are having experience in the relevant field may apply for enlistment. Detailed Terms & conditions are available in tender document at our websites : **www.tnpl.com / www.tenders.tn.gov.in**

DIPR/332/Tender/2023 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்."

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
Before the Registrar Court I, Section IIC
In
I.A. No. 187025/2022
In
SPECIAL LEAVE to APPEAL (CRIMINAL) NO. 4491 OF 2020

JOINT SECRETARY (COFEPOSA),
GOI, MINISTRY OF FINANCE, DEPT OF REVENUE,
CEIB, 6TH FLOOR, B-WING, JANPATH BHAWAN, JANPATH,
NEW DELHI-01
& ORS.....Petitioner(s)

--VERSUS--

KUMUTHAMALAR RAMACHANDRAN .....Respondent

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE BY WAY OF PUBLICATION

To,
KUMUTHAMALAR RAMACHANDRAN
BLOCK-A, 3RD FLOOR, FLAT NO. 4,
SILVER PARK APARTMENT, THANIKACHALAM ROAD,
(OPPOSITE HINDI PARCHAR SABHA), T NAGAR, CHENNAI
P.O. 600 017

TAKE NOTICE that the above I.A. (Interim Application) has been filed for substituted service in Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No. 4491/2020. That the said Special Leave to Appeal has been filed against the Order dated 27.02.2020 in HCP No. 2826/2019 passed by the Hon'ble MadrasHigh Court in which you are the sole respondent.

When the I.A No. 187025/2022 came up for hearing before the Learned Registrar Court 1,Section II-C, Supreme Court of India, on 05.01.2023 for service of notice, His Lordship was pleased to allow the said I.A by ordering Notice to you through paper publication and further directed the case to be listed on 10.02.2023.Hence this paper publication.

ALSO TAKE NOTICE that a copy of the Paper Book of the Petition may be obtained from the office of the Additional Commissioner, Customs, COFEPOSA Unit, Airport Commissionerate, Chennai (Phone 044-22569596) or from the petitioner's Advocate office.

Be present in the above said court on 10.02.2023 failing which the matter shall be heard and decided in your absence.

Dated at Chennai this 16th day of January 2023.

Advocate for the Petitioner
Mr. Mukesh Kumar Maroria, AOR
Library II, Supreme Court of India,
New Delhi, Delhi

DEPARTMENT OF HANDLOOMS
TENDER NOTICE
FOR PURCHASE OF 40sC Dyed Cotton Cone Yarn

Sealed tenders with two cover systems in the prescribed format are invited only from the interested eligible parties for the Purchase of 40sC Dyed Cotton Cone Yarn (Warp Quality) under Supply of Uniform Scheme for the Academic Year 2023-2024.

Sl. No.	Variety of yarn	Required Quantity in MT	Required Earnest Money Deposit in (Rs.)	Sale period	Last date & time for receipt of tender	Date & time of opening of Tender	Supply Period
1	40sC Dyed Cotton Cone Yarn (Warp Quality)	**1422.00**	**3,00,000/-**	19.01.2023 to 20.02.2023 upto 10.30 a.m	20.02.2023 upto 11.00 a.m	20.02.2023 at 12.00 Noon	75 days

Eligibility of the Tenderer and Other conditions are stipulated in the Tender Schedule.

1. The tender Schedule can be downloaded at **free of cost** from Government tender website **www.tenders.tn.gov.in** and used for bidding.

2. If requested to send through Post: By Demand Draft - Rs.5,700/- In favour of "Yarn Committee for FDS 2014" payable at Chennai City (inclusive of 12% GST).

Interested tenderers are requested to submit the tender schedule duly filled **in separate covers and it should be sent in a sealed envelope superscribing "Tender for Purchase of 40sC Dyed Cotton Cone Yarn"** addressed to "The Joint Director (Uniforms)/Tender Inviting Authority, O/o Commissioner of Handlooms, Kuralagam, II Floor, Chennai - 600 104"

Pre Bid Meeting : There will be a pre bid meeting on 31.01.2023 at 11.00 a.m. in the Conference Hall of the Commissionerate of Handlooms, Chennai-104.

Contact : Joint Director (Uniforms)
Telephone : 044-25358715 Fax : 044-25351177
Email ID : tenderwing2020@gmail.com

DIPR / 325 / Tender/2023 **Joint Director (Uniforms) Tender Inviting Authority**

சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்

DEPARTMENT OF HANDLOOMS
TENDER NOTICE
FOR PURCHASE OF POLYESTER TEXTURISED YARN

Sealed tenders with two cover systems in the prescribed format are invited only from the interested eligible parties for the Purchase of Polyester Texturised Yarn under Supply of Uniform Scheme for the Academic Year 2023-2024.

Sl. No.	Variety of yarn	Required Quantity in MT	Required Earnest Money Deposit in (Rs.)	Sale period	Last date & time for receipt of tender	Date & time of opening of Tender	Supply Period
1	155/34D Grey Polyester Texturised Yarn	**817.00**	**3,00,000/-**	19.01.2023 to 20.02.2023 upto 10.30 a.m	20.02.2023 upto 11.30 a.m	20.02.2023 at 12.30 p.m	75 days
2	130/34 D Dyed Polyester Texturised Yarn	**1049.00**					75 days

Eligibility of the Tenderer and Other conditions are stipulated in the Tender Schedule.

1. The tender Schedule can be downloaded at **free of cost** from Government tender website **www.tenders.tn.gov.in** and used for bidding.
2. **If requested to send through Post :** By Demand Draft - Rs.5,700/- in favour of "Yarn Committee for FDS 2014" payable at Chennai City (inclusive of 12% GST).

Interested tenderers are requested to submit the tender schedule duly filled **in separate covers and it should be sent in a sealed envelope superscribing "Tender for Purchase of Polyester Texturised Yarn"** addressed to "The Joint Director (Uniforms)/Tender Inviting Authority, O/o Commissioner of Handlooms, Kuralagam, 2nd Floor, Chennai - 600 104".

Pre Bid Meeting : There will be a pre bid meeting on 31.01.2023 at 11.00 a.m. in the Conference Hall of the Commissionerate of Handlooms, Chennai - 104.

Contact: Joint Director (Uniforms)
Telephone: 044-25358715 Fax: 044-25351177
Email ID: tenderwing2020@gmail.com

DIPR / 324 / Tender/2023 **Joint Director (Uniforms) Tender Inviting Authority**

சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்

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TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, TWAD BOARD, MADURAI.

TENDER EXTENSION NOTICE No.1 /Rmd / dated.09.01.2023 (E- Submission)

Ref : 1. This Office IFB No. 21,22,23 & 24 / F.CWSS to 2306 Rhs/JJM /DO I/ CW / Dt.12.12.2022

The date of Pre-Bid Meeting and last date of receipt & opening of tender called for in the reference cited is extended as under :

Name of Work : Jal Jeevan Mission – CWSS to 2 Municipalities, 5 Town Panchayats and 2306 rural habitations in 11 Panchayat Unions of **Ramanathapuram District** and Oddanchatram Municipality, Keeranur and Neikkarapatty Town Panchayats and 1422 Rural Habitations in 7 Unions of **Dindigul District** with river Cauvery as source– reg.

21	Package - I	22	Package - II	23	Package - III	24	Package - IV

Last date for receipt of tenders	Upto **15.00 hours** on **30.01.2023**	
Opening of tenders	at **15.30 hours** on **31.01.2023**	
Pre bid meeting	**Existing**	**Read as**
	04.01.2023 at **11.00 hours** at the office of the Tender Invitee	**23.01.2023** at **11.00 hours** at the office of the Tender Invitee
All other conditions and details remain unaltered.		

DIPR/ 349 /TENDER/2023 SAVE WATER, CONSERVE WATER, EVERY DROP COUNTS **Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Madurai**

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

INBRIEF

SII seeks inclusion of Covovax as booster dose in CoWIN

The Serum Institute of India has written to the Union Health Ministry seeking the inclusion of its COVID vaccine Covovax on the CoWIN portal as a heterologous booster dose for adults, official sources said on Wednesday. The National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation is likely to hold a meeting soon to decide on the matter. The DCGI on January 16 approved market authorisation for Covovax as a heterologous booster dose for adults who have received two doses of either Covishield or Covaxin. PTI

Seas, rivers should be part of national pysche: Sonowal

Rivers and seas should become part of the country's social psyche, and people living away from them should also be reminded of their significance, Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of Shipping, Waterways and Ports, said on Wednesday. He was launching 'Bharat Pravah-India along its Shores', an initiative to highlight the significance and imagery of rivers, ports and shipping through a series of nationwide events. Bharat Pravah is being organised in collaboration with the Institute for Governance, Policies and Politics, a think-tank.

Report flags widening learning gaps

The ASER 2022 report shows that government schools saw a sharp rise in enrolment for the first time in 16 years; basic literacy levels of children have taken a big hit, with their reading ability, as compared with numeracy skills, worsening much more sharply and dropping to pre-2012 levels

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

As schools reopened after nearly two years of closure due to COVID-19, student enrolments increased to more than pre-pandemic levels, but the learning gap widened for foundational skills in reading and arithmetic, reversing several years of improvement, finds the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2022, released by Pratham, a non-governmental organisation, on Wednesday.

The national-level study shows that despite school closures during the pandemic, the overall enrolment figures, which have been above 95% for the past 15 years for the six-to-14 age group, increased from 97.2% in 2018 to 98.4% in 2022.

The ASER is a household survey conducted across 616 rural districts covering 6.9 lakh children in the three-to-16 age group to record their schooling status and assess their basic reading and arithmetic skills. The report is being brought out after four years and records the impact of school closures in 2020 and 2021, as well as the return to school of children in 2022. The proportion of children in the three-to-16 age group who are not currently enrolled dropped to its lowest level ever from 2.8% to 1.6% in 2018, when the last full-scale ASER survey was conducted.

Government schools have seen a sharp increase in children enrolled from 65.6% in 2018 to 72.9% in 2022, reversing another trend of a steady decrease in student enrolments seen since 2006, when it was at 73.4%. Children's basic literacy levels have taken a big hit, with their reading ability compared with numeracy skills worsening much more sharply and dropping to pre-2012 levels.

The percentage of children in Class 3 in government or private schools who were able to read at the level of Class 2 dropped from 27.3% in 2018 to 20.5% in 2022. This decline is visible in every State, and for children in both government and private schools. The States showing a decline of more than 10 percentage points from the 2018 levels include those that had higher reading levels in 2018, such as Kerala (from 52.1% in 2018 to 38.7% in 2022), Himachal Pradesh (47.7% to 28.4%), and Haryana (46.4% to 31.5%). Large drops are also visible in Andhra Pradesh (22.6% to 10.3%) and Telangana (18.1% to 5.2%).

Nationally, the proportion of children enrolled in Class 5 in government or private schools who can at least read a Class 2-level text fell from 50.5% in 2018 to 42.8% in 2022. The States showing a decrease of 15 percentage points or more include Andhra Pradesh (from 59.7% in 2018 to 36.3% in 2022), Gujarat (from 53.8% to 34.2%), and Himachal Pradesh (from 76.9% to 61.3%).

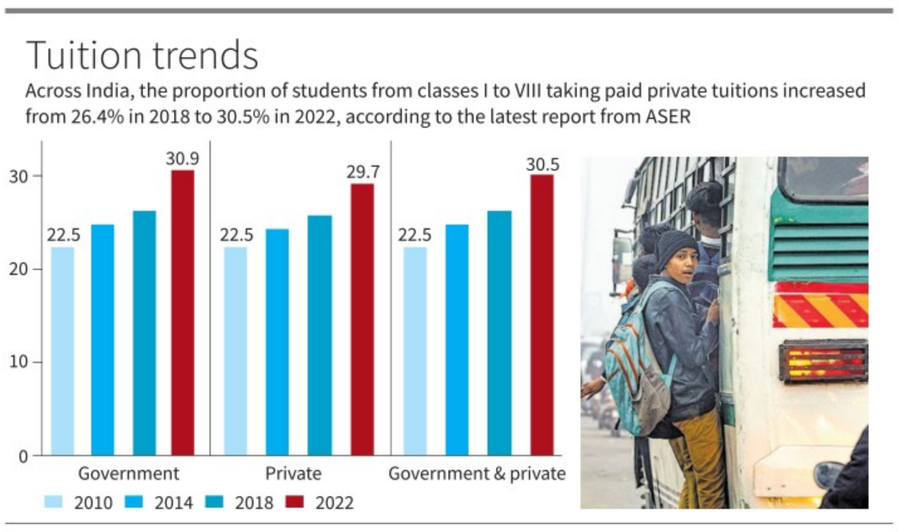
Basic reading ability

The drops in basic reading ability are smaller for Class 8 students, where 69.6% of children enrolled in government or private schools who could read at least basic text in 2022 falling from 73% in 2018.

Class 3 students who were able to at least subtract dropped from 28.2% in 2018 to 25.9% in 2022. While Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh maintained or improved slightly over 2018 levels, steep drops of more than 10 percentage points are visible in Tamil Nadu. The proportion of children in Class 5 across India who can carry out division has also fallen slightly from 27.9% in 2018 to 25.6% in 2022.

The performance of Class 8 students in basic arithmetic is more varied. Nationally, the proportion of children who can do division has increased slightly, from 44.1% in 2018 to 44.7% in 2022. This increase is driven by improved outcomes among girls as well as among children enrolled in government schools, whereas boys and children enrolled in private schools show a decline from the 2018 levels. Children in Class 8 in government schools did significantly better in 2022 than in 2018 in Uttar Pradesh (from 32% to 41.8%) and Chhattisgarh (from 28% to 38.6%), but were worse off in Punjab (from 58.4% to 44.5%).

While families withdrew students from private schools to save money on fees, they invested in private tuitions, which increased as the proportion of such students rose from 26.4% in 2018 to 30.5% in 2022 in private and government schools. This may be the reason learning gaps are sharper in reading because students typically choose to study maths and science in tuition classes.



PM's advice on 'unnecessary remarks' vital: M.P. Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BHOPAL

Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Narottam Mishra on Wednesday said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's advice to BJP members against making "unnecessary remarks" on films was not directed at any individual but was of utmost importance.

On Tuesday, Mr. Modi reportedly said at the BJP national executive that no one should make unnecessary comments that would overshadow the hard work done by the party. "No one's name has been taken but his every word and every sentence is *shirodharya* (of utmost importance) to us and that is why all the workers have received inspiration from there," Mr. Mishra said.

Last month, Mr. Mishra objected to actor Deepika Padukone's costumes in the upcoming film *Pathaan* and had hinted at a possible ban on the film in Madhya Pradesh.

Cuba developing cancer vaccines, Alzheimer's drugs: Che's daughter

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Medical professional and human rights advocate Aleida Guevara, daughter of Marxist revolutionary Che Guevara, on Wednesday said that the "criminal" blockade imposed by the U.S on Cuba had led to the island country developing alternatives in healthcare.

Interacting with students of the Asian College of Journalism, she said that Cuba had developed five vaccines for COVID-19. It was working on vaccines for pulmonary, prostate and breast cancers and also therapeutic medicines for Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases. Apart from developing such medicines, the country was trying to find alternatives in homoeopathy, acupuncture and traditional Indian medicine.

She said that "blockade" was the right word to refer to the U.S.-imposed sanctions, which have been in effect for more than six decades, as the word "embargo" did not fully capture its effect. She said the U.S. did not want Cuba to do business with any country.

Aleida Guevera, Cuban rights activist, at a discussion at the Asian College of Journalism (ACJ) in Chennai on Wednesday. N. Ram, Director, THG Publishing Private Ltd., and Sashi Kumar, Chairperson, ACJ, are seen. S.R. RAGHUNATHAN

Highlighting that the supply of food and medicines were the most affected by the blockade, Ms. Guevara said that it was often the case that eight out of 10 new drugs launched had a U.S. patent and hence could not be accessed by Cubans.

Highlighting the robustness of Cuba's healthcare, she said that the free and universal system prioritised preventive care.

On the Russia-Ukraine war, Ms. Guevara said that there could be no justification for war as the ones who lost the most were the common people. Criticising the role of the U.S. in the war, she said the country, which went "hysterical" and brought humanity to the verge of a World War because the USSR sent defence rockets to Cuba (during the 1962 Cuban missile crisis) was now supplying arms to Ukraine.

'Act of terrorism'

Strongly affirming solidarity with Cuba, N. Ram, Director, The Hindu Group Publishing Private Ltd., said the unprecedented blockade the country faced from the U.S. was an act of terrorism, but was not recognised as such. When Cuba faced a crisis after the break-up of the Soviet Union, the Cuban solidarity movement in India, of which he was a part, managed to send 10,000 tonnes of wheat to the country. He recalled how Fidel Castro, on receiving it, termed it 10,000 tonnes of solidarity.

Sashi Kumar, Chairman, Asian College of Journalism, said the Cuban health system had become a byword for excellence and highlighted how Cuban doctors had served many other countries in need as well. He said that it was important to observe how the western media under-reported Cuba's achievements, adding that there was no other country which was browbeaten so consistently and unjustly by the U.S. as Cuba and yet the country continued to keep the core values of revolution alive.

Centre alone cannot determine fake news, says Editors Guild

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Expressing concern over a draft amendment made to the Information Technology Rules, 2021 by the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), which empowers the Press Information Bureau (PIB) to "fact-check" content and direct social media platforms to take down anything deemed "fake", the Editors Guild of India (EGI) on Wednesday sought its removal.

It also urged the Ministry to initiate consultations with press bodies, media organisations and other stakeholders, on the regulatory framework for digital media, "so as to not undermine press freedom".

'Authority to PIB'

The EGI said the draft rule would give authority to the PIB to determine the veracity of news reports and anything termed 'fake' would have to be taken down by online intermediaries.

"...determination of fake news cannot be in the sole hands of the government and will result in the censorship of the press. Already multiple laws exist to deal with content that is found to be factually incorrect. This new procedure basically serves to make it easier to muzzle the free press, and will give sweeping powers to the PIB, or any other agency authorised by the Central government for fact checking, to force online intermediaries to take down content that the government may find problematic," it said.

The EGI said the words "in respect of any business of the Central government" seemed to give the government *carte blanche* to determine what was fake or not with respect to its own work.

"This will stifle legitimate criticism of the government and will have an adverse impact on the ability of the press to hold governments to account," it said.

Singh Deo rules out possibility of joining BJP

The Hindu Bureau
BHOPAL

Senior Chhattisgarh Minister T.S. Singh Deo on Wednesday ruled out the possibility of joining the BJP, saying such a move would be against his ideology.

"I will never join the BJP. My personal ideology and the philosophy of life can never connect me with BJP...," he said.

Mr. Deo is a second-generation Congress leader from the Sarguja family whose association with the party dates back to 1983.

However, Mr. Deo, who has often indicated his resentment over not getting the Chief Minister's post that his supporters claim was promised to him when the party won in 2018, kept speculation alive when asked about his future moves. "What course my politics takes from here depends on the future," Mr. Deo said.

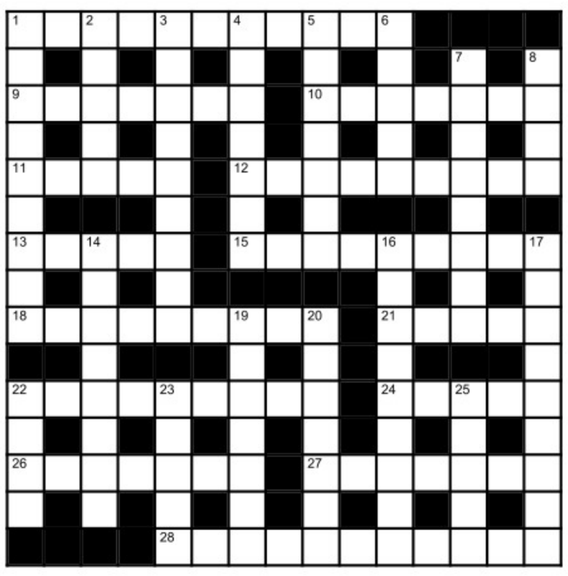
He laughed off suggestions of launching a new party as "it costs a lot".

TH CROSSWORD + 13766

(set by Afterdark)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Makes things very easy for workers? Fresh debate organised (11)
9 Mumbai Indians catch (a top coach including) a vehicle (7)
10 Leading actor, woman, single overtaking Number One (7)
11 Study of fictional king at north (5)
12 Transmit readings, note encountered in roll back (9)
13 Quiet sanctuary vacated by mother (5)
15 Not able to take a short log up to fetch a fruit (9)
18 Baldness? Not applicable to King Edward's head (9)
21 Lover in the morning ill-tempered starting late (5)
22 Fort gets donor building main entrance (5,4)
24 Sample chipped at the top, apply some Pidilite or gum (5)
26 Experts meet scholars at NY time to go to Rhode Island (7)
27 Up about house at Middlesex beat (7)
28 Steamy sites removed by order (11)

Down

1 I am fine, my broadcast is for people with wife and children (6,3)
2 Disorder in kneecap, nearly plastered (5)
3 Writer looked beyond a point. So cliched (9)
4 Routine is mostly bore, should be reversed. Get a book, go to disco often (7)
5 Grade online chapter, take time to cover first lesson (7)
6 Pick drinks later on road (5)
7 One of 26 contracted virus too (8)
8 Female attention is a concern (4)
14 Facelift of man's done. Having cake, no cold (8)
16 A curb on exercise, everyone should return for a performance without instruments (1,8)
17 Northbound salesman's powerful to carry on (9)
19 Sensualists, kinky trio in a London area, heart of Essex (7)
20 Disaster, a cat has disappeared with a Greek poem (7)
22 Greatness? Nothing with author (4)
23 Carries to Lawrence at Sweden (5)
25 A guru in Whatsapp (in social media) with ego (5)

SUDOKU

7					2			9
				7				
6	9		5		1		3	
	4					8		
			6	3	5			
		9					6	
	6		4		9		1	7
				2				
4			7					5

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

No.SS5683 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

C	A	S	U	A	L	T	A	X
H	C	B	A	S	N	A		
M	O	V	E	R	E	P	O	S
L	N	I	P	E	E	B		
L	E	G	E	N	D	R	I	N
R	G	O	T	L	G			
B	A	T	T	L	E	A	X	E
H	I	C						
S	H	R	E	D	E	M	E	R
U	R	L	A	I	A			
I	N	T	E	R	E	S	T	
K	F	S	E	O	A	T		
L	E	M	O	N	S	O	L	E
R	R	E	Y	T	L	G		
S	H	E	K	E	L	R	E	N

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	7	5	6	2	4	1	9	8
9	4	8	1	7	5	6	3	2
1	6	2	8	3	9	5	4	7
6	9	4	2	5	1	7	8	3
8	5	7	9	6	3	2	1	4
2	3	1	4	8	7	9	6	5
4	2	9	7	1	8	3	5	6
5	1	6	3	4	2	8	7	9
7	8	3	5	9	6	4	2	1

FAITH

Devotion, the medium

People who encounter problems in their life make two common accusations against God – the first that God is merciless to give problems, and the second that God is exercising partiality. They ask themselves, "Why should we alone suffer and why should there be disparity as to rich and poor? Who is to be blamed for this? Whether God or ourselves?"

But the scriptures say that there is no discrimination in God's creations. The elements of nature created by God, like wind, fire and water, don't show any discrimination. He creates equally all of us but it is our deeds, transformed into karma, that make variations in life. We cannot escape either on this Earth or in any other world. All the 14 worlds form a part of God. It's said that Satyaloka is His head; the netherworld is His feet; one of the seven lower regions called 'Mahathala' is His ankle. We cannot go anywhere and be out of His domain. God is policing us and He ensures we don't escape from being punished.

Devotion towards God is the best way to get out of our troubles. Devotion wipes out all our sins and makes us earn His blessings. Koorathazhwan says that we are all the property of God.

Velukudi Sri Krishnan Swamy said in a discourse that like a mother cat holding its kitten in its mouth and safely transferring it from place to place ('marjara nyayam'), God is protecting us.

Through our thoughts and behaviour, we should not turn rats and drift away from Him. The great sage Sukhabrahmam preaches to Parikshit, Mythreyar and Vidurar that devotion will cleanse our sins.

KABUL

At least 70 people killed in cold weather across Afghanistan

AFP

At least 70 people died in a wave of freezing temperatures sweeping Afghanistan, officials said on Wednesday. Since January 10, the temperature has dropped to as low as -33 degrees Celsius in many parts of the country. The Ministry of Disaster Management said 70 people and 70,000 cattle died over the past eight days. AFP

LONDON

Church of England retains its ban on same-sex marriages

AP

The Church of England will not change its rules to allow priests to marry same-sex couples following five years of internal debate on the issue, it announced on Wednesday. They can instead "come to church to give thanks for their civil marriage or civil partnership and receive God's blessing," the church said in a statement. AFP

LONDON

U.K. nurses stage new walkout as wave of strikes over pay intensifies

AP

Thousands of nurses in Britain walked out on Wednesday in a new protest over pay, with no end in sight to a wave of strikes that has piled pressure on the U.K.'s overburdened public health system. Two 12-hour strikes on Wednesday and Thursday will affect about a quarter of hospitals and clinics in England. AP

MANILA

Philippine Nobel laureate Maria Ressa acquitted of tax evasion

AFP

Philippine Nobel Prize winner Maria Ressa was acquitted of tax evasion, among a slew of charges she has long maintained are politically motivated. She called the verdict a victory for "truth". She still faces three other cases, including a cyber libel conviction now under appeal that could mean nearly seven years in prison. AFP

Ukraine's Interior Minister among 15 dead in helicopter crash near Kyiv

Three of the casualties and 15 among the 29 injured were children as the helicopter went down near a nursery. While there was no immediate comment from Russia, Ukraine made no reference to any Russian attack in the area at the time

Reuters
BROVARY

Ukraine's Interior Minister was among at least 15 persons killed on Wednesday morning when a helicopter crashed near a nursery outside Kyiv, Ukrainian officials said.

Officials said nine persons on board the aircraft and six on the ground, including three children, were killed when the French-made Super Puma helicopter crashed in a residential area in the suburb of Brovary on the capital's eastern outskirts. Earlier, officials had given an initial death toll of 18.

The regional governor said 29 other people were injured, including 15 children.

Costly ride: Four men carry a body at the site where a helicopter crashed near a kindergarten outside Kyiv on Wednesday. AFP

President Volodymyr Zelensky called the crash a terrible tragedy, saying the full casualty toll was still being determined and he had ordered an investigation.

National police chief Ihor Klymenko confirmed that Interior Minister Denys Monastyrskyi was killed alongside his first deputy, Yevheniy Yenin, and other ministry officials flying in the helicopter operated by the state emergency service.

Ukrainian officials said it was not immediately clear what had caused the helicopter to crash. There was no immediate comment from Russia, which invaded Ukraine last February, and Ukrainian officials made no reference to any Russian attack in the area at the time.

Separately, Ukraine reported intense fighting overnight in the east of the country.

Ukrainian forces repelled attacks in the eastern city of Bakhmut and the village of Klishchiivka just south of it, the Ukrainian military said.

Western allies will be gathering on Friday at a U.S. air base in Germany to pledge more weapons for Ukraine. Attention is focused in particular on Germany, which has veto power over any decision to send its Leopard tanks, fielded by armies across Europe and widely seen as the most suitable for Ukraine.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Wednesday Moscow saw no prospects of peace talks and there could be no negotiations with Zelenskiy. Russia has said talks are possible only if Ukraine recognises Moscow's claims to Ukrainian territory.

Imran Khan's party dissolves Assembly in Pakistani province

Associated Press
PESHAWAR

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), the party of former Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday dissolved a provincial Assembly in the country's northwest, where it held majority seats. Its rival, the ruling Pakistan Muslim League party, criticised the move, saying it meant to deepen the political crisis and force early parliamentary elections.

As Opposition leader, Mr. Khan has been campaigning for early elections and has claimed – without providing evidence – that his ouster last April in a no-confidence vote in Parliament was illegal.

On Wednesday, Ghulam Ali, the provincial governor in northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, dissolved the local Assembly, just days after another Khan ally, provincial lawmaker Pervez Elahi, dissolved the Assembly in Punjab, the country's most populous province, in eastern Pakistan.

Pak. current account deficit falls to $0.4 bn

KARACHI
Pakistan's current account deficit fell to $0.4 billion in December 2022 from $1.9 billion a year earlier, the central bank said, as the cash-strapped government slashed imports in a bid to avert an external payments crisis. REUTERS

Court bars Minister in Netanyahu Cabinet

Associated Press
JERUSALEM

Israel's Supreme Court ruled on Wednesday that a key member of the country's new government cannot serve as a Cabinet Minister. The decision deepens a rift over the power of the courts in Israel and presents Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with what could be his first coalition crisis.

The High Court ruled that Aryeh Deri, the influential head of the ultra-Orthodox Shas party who has served previous governments, is disqualified from serving as a Minister after he was convicted last year for tax offences and placed on probation as part of a plea deal. Mr. Deri has pledged not to quit.

In Sri Lanka's southern tourism hotspot, locals are yet to see a full recovery

Meera Srinivasan
GALLE

At the close of 2022, crisis-hit Sri Lanka had recorded nearly 7.2 lakh tourist arrivals – more than three times the number seen in 2021, even if nowhere close to the country's pre-pandemic mark of nearly 20 lakh visitors.

While authorities and the tourism industry pitched the modest, yet promising, figure as a sure sign of economic recovery, many in Galle, a tourism hotspot along the island's southern coast, say their trade and lives have not looked more uncertain. On a recent weekday the usually thriving fort was hardly teeming with visitors.

It was Taraka Jayasinghe Gunasekara's first substantial hire in many days, from the neighbouring Matara district to Galle. As his clients toured the ramparts around town, built by the Portuguese five centuries ago and later fortified by the Dutch, the 35-year-old is waiting in his autorickshaw, staring at his phone.

'Bleak future'

"I am trying to see if I can join some language classes, like Korean, or maybe some skills training course. Otherwise, I can't find a job abroad," he says. The three-wheeler driver's matter-of-fact admission echoes the thinking of many young Sri Lankans, especially those in the employable age bracket.

The crushing economic meltdown last year prompted over 3 lakh Sri Lankans to leave, a record high in official outmigration figures on the island. "If things don't change, what future do we have in this country?" Mr. Gunasekara asks.

Lean patch: While more people are visiting, business could be better, say cafe owners and small traders in Galle. MEERA SRINIVASAN

For many, things have not changed much in the past few months. Long queues for essentials have disappeared, supplies have been restored, and street protests have ended, but many Sri Lankans like him are struggling to cope with the dramatic rise in living costs.

Tourism reeling

Tourist arrivals reflect a sharp rise since 2021, but its impact is yet to be felt, according to locals, especially small traders, reliant on the tourism industry. A.G. Jayantha is seated by the Galle Fort selling wooden statues of mostly fishermen and elephants.

"Before the pandemic I've even made upto 50,000 [Sri Lankan] rupees (roughly ₹ 11,000) on good days. But now, making even a few thousands is hard. We don't get as many tourists, and not all tourists coming in spend money."

Russian tourists, he says, are posing a peculiar challenge. "Some of them have stayed here for five or six months, perhaps fearing conscription back home. They seem to have some problem using their credit cards here, so they operate with very little cash and buy only essential items like bread and vegetables," he says.

Restaurant owners operating inside Galle Fort voice similar concern, of the unexpected ways in which a distant war is affecting their own, civil-warred scarred island.

As many as 91,272 Russian tourists entered Sri Lanka this year, official data shows, moving Russia up to the second spot among Sri Lanka's main tourism markets, after India, which has remained the island's top source market.

Last year's financial meltdown is the latest blow to the industry, following the Easter Sunday bombings of 2019, and the pandemic in 2020 and 2021. The resilient sector earned over a billion dollars in 2022, and authorities are about to launch a global promotion soon to boost tourism revenue that is crucial for the country's economic revival.

Erdogan may shift Turkey polls forward to May 14

Agence France-Presse
ISTANBUL

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Wednesday signalled that he intended to call the next general election on May 14.

Turkey's next general election is officially due to be held on June 18.

But officials have been hinting for weeks that they may bring the polls forward because of religious holidays and school exams.

Mr. Erdogan delivered a speech to his ruling party in which he recalled the day contemporary Turkey held its first free election in 1950.

That May 14 vote was won by Adnan Menderes – a Prime Minister who was toppled by a military junta in 1960 and executed a year later. Mr. Erdogan has often compared himself to Menderes during his two-decade rule as the Prime Minister and President.

"The late Menderes said on May 14, 1950 'enough, the people will have their say', and emerged victorious at the ballot box," Mr. Erdogan said. "Our people will give their answer to the (Opposition) on the same day 73 years later."

Mr. Erdogan enters the election with his approval ratings bruised by a year-long economic crisis that saw inflation touch 85%.

But the Opposition has still not united around a single candidate to field in the race.

The polls will also challenge Mr. Erdogan's control of parliament.

His ruling party is currently in an alliance with a far-right party whose support has dwindled in the past few years.

Central Coalfields Limited
A Miniratna Company
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

NOTICE

All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd. **www.coalindia.in** / respective Subsidiary Company (CCL, **www.centralcoalfields.in**). CIL e-procurement portal **https://coalindiatenders.nic.in** and Central Public Procurement Portal **https://eprocure.gov.in** in addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal **https://gem.gov.in**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: 506/BGM/SEE/Tr.(W&M)/C/EE(O)/AEE-1/22-23/F-8434-45 Date: 17.01.2023

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

KPTCL invites bids against this office tender indent BID ENQUIRY NO: KPTCL/2022-23/SS/WORK_INDENT10207 for the Work of spare winding transportation, fixing, brazing and tanking with suitable gaskets and supply of insulation materials, miscellaneous materials at PDTR sub-division, KPTCL, Hubballi in supervision of KPTCL staff for repair of faulty 100MVA, 220/110/11kV class NGEF Make power transformer Sl.No. 68000000087 failed at 220kV R/S Belagavi and presently laying at PDTR sub-division, KPTCL, Hubballi.

The detailed notification regarding the works called through the "E-procurement" mode can be obtained by logging onto E-procurement's website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 4:00 pm on 19.01.2023. Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer Ele., Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Nehru Nagar, Belagavi - 590010. Phone: 0831-2950835 / 36.

Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
KNNL,Dandavathi Reservoir Project Division,Shikaripura.

Short Term Tender Notification-46/2022-23 Date: 11.01.2023
(E- Procurement System only)

On behalf of Managing Director, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited, Bengaluru, the Executive Engineer, KNNL, Dandavati Reservoir Project Division, Shikaripura invites tenders as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Rules 2000 and Act 2000 and as per Standard Tender Document KW through e-procurement portal from the contractors registered in KPWD Class III and above **(for Sl No.1 to 3 SC Category and for Sl No. 4 ST Category Contractors should be participated)**.
For the works of Construction of community hall providing basic amenities in Shikaripura taluk, the amount put to tender for 06 works is from **Rs 50.00 lakhs to Rs 9.89 lakhs** and EMD amount is from **Rs 0.50 lakhs to Rs 0.25 lakhs.**
1) The date for participating in the tender: **from 17.01.2023 to 25.01.2023 upto 5.30 P M. (2)** The last date for tender clarifications: **24.01.2023 at 5.00 P M. (3)** Date of opening of financial bid : **27.01.2023 at 11.00 A M.**
More details can be had from **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or at the office of the undersigned.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer.
DIPR/SMG/No.116/ZENKAR/2022-23 **KNNL, DRP Division, Shikaripura**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. SEE/TR(M)/RMGC/EE(O)/AE(T)/F-35/22-23/4780-86 Dated : 18.01.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

KPTCL invites bid against enquiry No: **KPTCL/SEE/TRM/EE(O)/AE(T)/SURGE MONITORS/2022-23/EPR-351 Dtd:28.12.2022** For Design, Manufacture, Testing and Supply of 66KV Surge Monitors required for Various stations coming under the jurisdiction of Ramanagara Circle to Technical Specifications. F.O.R.D at Store/ Site basis, including insurance, transportation and unloading.
The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the E-Procurement Portal process can be obtained by logging into KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink 'e-Procurement-KPTCL' or to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **19.01.2023.**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele),
Transmission (Maintenance), Ramanagara circle, 220/66/11 KV Vrushabhavati Valley Station, Mysore Road, Bengaluru-26.

Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited
(Wholly owned by Govt. of Karnataka undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through E-procurement Portal)

BESCOM invites tenders through e-procurement platform against enquiry No.: **BESCOM/BCP-1440/2022-23** for the procurement of **New Insulating Oil- Uninhibited (U) Type-II Transformer Oil**. Bid Documents available: **19.01.2023** onwards. Last date for Bid Submission: **17.02.2023, 16:00Hrs.** Opening of Bid Document: **20.02.2023 11:00 Hrs.**
The Tenders can be obtained through e-procurement portal Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** Aspiring Bidders need to register on e-procurement portal. Further Bidders can take assistance with e-procurement help desk contact numbers: **+91-80460 10000, +91-8068948777** or email at **support@eprochelpdesk.com.**

Sd/-
The General Manager, Ele., Procurement, BESCOM, 4th Floor, K.R. Circle, Bangalore-560 001,
Phone: 080-22354939, Fax: 080-22352485.

For Electricity related complaints call : 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP.

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
K.N.N.L Ltd,. SLIS, Divn. No. 1, Mundargi, Gadag Dist. Ph No. 08371-262174,
Ref No. KNNL/EE/SLIS/MDG/2022-23/1597 Date: 12.01.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(ONLY THROUGH "*e-Procurement*" SYSTEM)

Tender has been invited for work of Shirahatti Contituency coming under jurisdiction of Singatalur Lift Irrigation Project Division No 1., Mundaragi vide ref (1) **(Indent No 35522)**. Bids have to be submitted through "e-Procurement" Portal only. Details like name of work, Amount put to tender, EMD and other terms and conditions etc., can be had from the office of Executive Engineer, KNNL, Singatalur Lift Irrigation Scheme Division No.,1 Mundaragi during office hours. Tender documents can be downloaded from "eproc.karnataka.gov.in" website from **17.01.2023** onwards and last date of submisison of bids is **30.01.2023**. Incomplete tender documents and conditional tenders are liable to be rejected. The officer competent to accept the tender shall have the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KNNL, SLIS, Division No-1, Mundaragi
DIPR/Gadag/MCA/583/2022-23

INBRIEF

Maruti recalls 17,362 vehicles to fix faulty airbag controller

Maruti Suzuki India on Wednesday said it was recalling 17,362 units of vehicles to inspect and replace a faulty airbag controller. The affected models are Alto K10, S-Presso, Eeco, Brezza, Baleno and Grand Vitara, manufactured between December 8, 2022 and January 12, 2023, the carmaker said in a regulatory filing. PTI

Wendt India Q3 net rises 69%, declares ₹30 interim dividend

Murugappa Group's Wendt India Ltd. reported standalone net profit for the third quarter rose 69% to ₹11.45 crore on account of higher sales to user industries such as auto and auto ancillaries, engineering and steel. Revenue from operations rose 29% to ₹46.91 crore. Exports jumped 47% to ₹12.21 crore on higher offtake from countries such as the U.S., Russia, Indonesia, the U.K. and Spain. The board reappointed C. Srikanth as CEO for a period of two years from July 1 and declared an interim dividend of ₹30 per share.

Dr. Reddy's slashes price of cardiovascular drug Cidmus

Dr. Reddy's Laboratories (DRL) said on Wednesday it had reduced the price of cardiovascular drug Cidmus.

A combination of sacubitril and valsartan, the drug is indicated for heart failure patients with reduced ejection fraction. The active pharmaceutical ingredient and the finished drug will be manufactured in-house at a U.S. FDA-approved facility, the company said.

Consequently, the price of each Cidmus 50 mg tablet will be ₹29 as against ₹78.32 earlier, 100 mg - ₹49 (₹83.86), and 200 mg - ₹79 (₹96.71).

'Oil demand may see high on China's COVID-19 reopening'

Two wild cards dominate this year's oil market outlook — Russia and China, says IEA; agency points out driver of 2023 GDP, oil demand growth will be timing, pace of China's recovery

Reuters
LONDON

The lifting of COVID-19 restrictions in China is set to boost global oil demand this year to a record high, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said on Wednesday, while price cap sanctions on Russia could dent supply.

"Two wild cards dominate the 2023 oil market outlook: Russia and China," the energy watchdog said in its monthly oil report. "Russian supply slows under the full impact of sanctions (while) China will drive nearly half this global demand growth even as the shape and speed of its reopening remain uncertain."

Weak industrial activity and mild weather helped cut oil demand by close to a million barrels per day in OECD countries in the last quarter of 2022. But despite likely mild recessions in Europe and the U.S., China's expected reopening is set to fuel rebounds in nearby Asian economies and see it take the lead from India as the leader in oil demand growth.

"The pre-eminent driver of 2023 GDP and oil demand growth will be the timing and pace of China's post-lockdown recovery," the IEA said.

The main growth in oil supply is set to come from the U.S. as output from the OPEC+ group will decline.

All eyes on China

Russian supply slows under the full impact of sanctions, while China will drive almost half the global demand growth

- Weak industrial activity and mild winter helped cut oil demand in OECD countries
- Main growth in oil supply is set to come from the U.S.
- Output from the OPEC+ producer group will decline, led by Russia

SBI raises ₹9,718 cr. via second infra bond issue

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

State Bank of India said it had raised ₹9,718 crore through a second infrastructure bond issue at a coupon rate of 7.7%.

"The issue attracted an overwhelming response from investors with bids of ₹14,805 crore," it added.

"This issuance is very significant considering this is the first time an Indian bank is issuing a 15-year, long-term infrastructure bond helping the bank in long-term lending to the infrastructure segment," SBI said."We believe this issue will encourage banks to issue for longer tenor."

Adani to use $2.5 bn share-sale funds for capex, repaying debt

Reuters
BENGALURU

India's Adani Enterprises will use the proceeds of the ₹200-billion ($2.46 billion) follow-on public offering (FPO), beginning on January 27, for capital expenditure requirements and pay off some debt of its units.

The company will use ₹108.69 billion from India's biggest FPO to fund green hydrogen projects, airport facilities and greenfield expressways, the Indian billionaire Gautam Adani-helmed firm said in its prospectus.

It will also use ₹41.65 billion to repay the borrowings of three of its units, Adani Airport Holdings Ltd., Adani Road Transport Ltd., and Mundra Solar Ltd. Adani Enterprises' prospectus did not specify a price band for the follow-on sale of shares that ends on January 31.

The proposed fund raise comes as the ports-to-energy conglomerate aggressively expands into sectors such as cement and healthcare, amid some concerns about its elevated debt levels and large promoter shareholding.

$13.8-bn acquisitions

The group had made acquisitions worth $13.8 billion in 2022, as per Dealogic data, its highest ever in a year and more than double that of the previous year.

Adani Enterprises' stock jumped almost 130% in 2022, and slid 1.2% on Wednesday on the BSE.

MS to cut 10,000 jobs as tech layoffs deepen

Reuters

Microsoft Corp. said on Wednesday it would cut 10,000 jobs by the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2023, the latest sign that layoffs were accelerating in the U.S. technology sector as companies brace for an economic downturn.

The layoffs and costs, related to hardware-portfolio and other changes, will result in a charge of $1.2 billion in the second quarter of fiscal 2023, representing a negative impact of 12 cents on per share profit, Microsoft said.

In a note to employees, shared with Reuters, Microsoft Chief Executive Satya Nadella said customers wanted to "optimise their digital spend to do more with less" and "exercise caution as some parts of the world are in a recession and other parts are anticipating one."

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	WEDNESDAY	%CHANGE
Sensex	61,046	0.64
US Dollar	81.41	0.35
Gold	56,526	-0.27
Brent oil	87.69	1.61

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	3596.70	-42.65
Adani Ports	786.50	1.75
Apollo Hosp	4339.80	16.95
Asian Paints	2945.25	4.35
Axis Bank	924.00	6.30
Bajaj Auto	3609.90	2.95
Bajaj Finserv	1367.30	-5.60
Bajaj Finance	5998.65	13.70
Bharti Airtel	776.55	10.85
BPCL	346.05	-2.35
Britannia Ind	4393.70	31.65
Cipla	1063.40	-5.70
Coal India	216.85	3.75
Divis Lab	3388.50	41.10
Dr Reddys Lab	4364.35	12.60
Eicher Motors	3177.60	-2.35
Grasim Ind	1676.50	15.80
HCL Tech	1115.15	4.10
HDFC	2687.65	47.00
HDFC Bank	1637.30	28.40
HDFC Life	601.05	-8.40
Hero MotoCorp	2769.95	3.10
Hindalco	502.95	15.05
Hind Unilever	2686.20	18.65
ICICI Bank	869.50	4.35
IndusInd Bank	1223.00	-7.35
Infosys	1545.40	5.90
ITC	334.65	2.40
JSW Steel	767.15	9.65
Kotak Bank	1799.10	1.45
L&T	2266.50	53.40
M&M	1322.15	1.30
Maruti Suzuki	8494.05	14.70
NestleIndia	19823.35	-122.40
NTPC	169.45	1.75
ONGC	149.25	1.40
PowerGrid Corp	219.35	0.95
Reliance Ind	2474.70	-4.10
SBI Life	1310.65	12.20
State Bank	591.45	-1.50
Sun Pharma	1040.10	7.40
TataConsumerProduct	750.50	0.45
Tata Motors	408.40	-6.90
Tata Steel	122.45	3.10
TCS	3390.00	11.60
Tech Mahindra	1048.35	2.30
Titan	2424.10	16.15
UltraTech Cement	7283.45	-94.20
UPL	732.35	13.15
Wipro	403.20	6.85

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on January 18

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	81.04	81.36
Euro	88.03	88.41
British Pound	100.07	100.47
Japanese Yen (100)	62.59	62.84
Chinese Yuan	11.99	12.03
Swiss Franc	88.74	89.10
Singapore Dollar	61.54	61.79
Canadian Dollar	60.63	60.88
Malaysian Ringitt	18.79	18.87
Australian Dollar	56.86	57.09

Source:Indian Bank

ALL to supply 500 buses to Sri Lanka Transport

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Ashok Leyland Ltd. (ALL) will supply 500 buses to the Sri Lanka Transport Board (SLTB).

As a part of the order, ALL recently delivered 75 buses to the island nation on its Independence Day.

The order is a part of a Line of Credit extended by the Export Import Bank of India, under the Economic Assistance Scheme of the Government of India, ALL said in a statement.

"More than 5,000 Ashok Leyland buses are in operation with SLTB," said Amandeep Singh, President, International Operations, ALL.

SC to hear Google's plea for stay on CCI's ₹1,337-cr. fine today

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court agreed to hear on Thursday Google's plea for a stay against a Competition Commission of India (CCI) order imposing a ₹1,337-crore fine for alleged anti-competitive practices in relation to mobile devices running on its Android system.

The case came up at 3.45 p.m. before a Bench led by Chief Justice of India D. Y. Chandrachud on Wednesday. With just a quarter of an hour of court time left, the Bench told the lawyers that it would commence hearing on the morning of January 19.

Additional Solicitor General N. Venkataraman, for CCI, emphasised on the gravity of the issue, saying "this is a matter of national importance. The world is looking at us".

Senior advocate A.M. Singhvi, for Google, agreed about the seriousness. He had earlier said there was no delay on the U.S. multinational firm's part to challenge the CCI order.

JFL aims to add 300 food service outlets in 12 months

N. Anand
CHENNAI

Food service firm Jubilant FoodWorks Ltd. (JFL) plans to open about 300 outlets across the country over the next 12 months at an investment of about ₹900 crore, said CEO & MD Sameer Khetarpal.

"Our mid-term plan is to have about 3,000 Dominos restaurants in India in the next four to five years," Mr. Khetarpal said. "Every year, we plan to open about 240-250 outlets," he said after opening the first Popeyes outlet here.

"Plans are also on to open about 50 Popeyes restaurants in the next 12 months," he added.

'Corporate funding in solar slid 13% in 2022'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Corporate funding in the global solar sector declined 13% year-on-year to $24.1 billion in 2022, according to a Mercom Capital report.

Corporate funding includes venture capital and private equity (VC and PE), debt financing, and public market financing.

VC funding rises 56%

During 2022, VC funding activity rose 56% to $7 billion compared with $4.5 billion in 2021. In 2022, debt financing stood at $12 billion, a 24% decline compared with $15.8 billion raised during 2021.

Global public market financing in 2022 totalled $5.1 billion, 32% lower than $7.5 billion in 2021. A total of 128 mergers and acquisitions (M&A) transactions were recorded in 2022.

"The war in Ukraine has accelerated demand for solar around the world and the Inflation Reduction Act has boosted the sector in the U.S.," said Raj Prabhu, Chief Executive Officer of Mercom Capital Group.

TRAI's caller ID plan raises privacy fears

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Telecom operators have expressed concerns over user privacy on the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's Calling Name Presentation (CNAP) proposal, under which phones would need to display the name of a caller, by extracting the name of the subscriber from their SIM registration data.

"From data privacy aspect, we submit that the name of the telecom consumer is his personal data and under the prevalent jurisprudence... we understand that there is a requirement of telecom consumer's consent in sharing his name with a third party," Reliance Jio said in a submission to TRAI. Reliance conceded that CNAP would be a "good to have facility," but said that there were still a large number of devices that didn't support the feature in the first place, such as inexpensive feature phones that had been outfitted with 4G technology.

"Though CNAP will be a step towards protecting the right of the called party to identify the caller against spamming, it will conflict with the privacy concern of the calling party who may not want to flash his/her name on to the screen of the called party," Vodafone Idea said, adding that CNAP could be an optional service.

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Only through e-procurement portal)

BWSSB invites Tenders from registered Agencies for the following works:

Office of the Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, KG Road, Bengaluru - 560009

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number	Amount put to tender EMD (in Rs.)		Last Date & Time for Submission of Tender	Date & Time for Opening of Tender
1	East-1	BWSSB/EE(East)-1/PB/2419/ 2022-23, Date: 16.01.2023 - **2nd Call**	1	Rs.17,03,335/- Rs.42,590/-	02.02.2023 upto 4:00 PM	04.02.2023 after 5:00 PM
2			2	Rs.22,91,499/- Rs.50,000/-		
				Sd/- **Executive Engineer (East)-1**		
3	South-East-2	BWSSB/EE(SE-2)/TO/PB/3145/ 2022-23, Date: 17.01.2023	1	Rs.68,24,492/- Rs.1,36,500/-	02.02.2023 upto 4:00 PM	04.02.2023 after 4:30 PM
4		BWSSB/EE(SE-2)/PB/3147/ 2022-23, Date: 17.01.2023	2	Rs.65,62,643/- Rs.1,31,253/-		
5		BWSSB/EE(SE-2)/PB/3143/ 2022-23, Date: 17.01.2023	3	Rs.69,86,852/- Rs.1,39,737/-		
				Sd/- **Executive Engineer (South East)-2**		
6	South-East-1	BWSSB/EE(SE)-1/PB/3286/ 2022-23, Date: 18.01.2023	1	Rs.10,51,620/- Rs.26,300/-	02.02.2023 upto 5:00 PM	04.02.2023 after 5:30 PM
7			2	Rs.12,57,966/- Rs.31,450/-		
8			3	Rs.19,48,621/- Rs.48,750/-		
9			4	Rs.32,49,278/- Rs.65,000/-		
10			5	Rs.53,29,852/- Rs.1,06,600/-		
11			6	Rs.57,79,671/- Rs.1,15,600/-		
12			7	Rs.63,02,917/- Rs.1,26,100/-		
13			8	Rs.65,42,284/- Rs.1,30,900/-		
				Sd/- **Executive Engineer (South East)-1**		
Office of the Chief Engineer (South), 7th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, KG Road, Bengaluru - 560009						
14	South-West-1	BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1373/ 2022-23, Date: 16.01.2023 - **2nd Call**		Rs.15,85,421/- Rs.39,700/-	31.01.2023 upto 4:00 PM	02.02.2023 at 3:00 PM
				Sd/- **Executive Engineer (South West)-1**		
Office of the Chief Engineer, (Kaveri-O&M), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, KG Road, Bengaluru - 560009						
15	Kaveri (O&M)-4	BWSSB/EEK(O&M)-4/PB/310/ 2022-23, Date: 16.01.2023		Rs.39,76,000/- Rs.93,500/-	15.02.2023 upto 4:00 PM	17.02.2023 at 4:00 PM
				Sd/- **Executive Engineer, (Kaveri-O&M)-4**		
Office of the Chief Engineer (North), 2nd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, KG Road, Bengaluru - 560009						
16	Central	BWSSB/EEC/PB/2732/2022-23, Date: 17.01.2023 - **2nd Call (Reserved SC Category)**		Rs.19,13,085/- Rs.23,950/-	26.01.2023 upto 5:00 PM	27.01.2023 at 5:01 PM
17		BWSSB/EEC/PB/2730/2022-23, Date: 17.01.2023 - **2nd Call**		Rs.15,55,310/- Rs.38,900/-		
18		BWSSB/EEC/PB/2736/2022-23, Date: 18.01.2023 - **3rd Call**		Rs.3,92,853/- Rs.9,850/-		
19		BWSSB/EEC/PB/2734/2022-23, Date: 18.01.2023 - **3rd Call**		Rs.5,92,563/- Rs.14,850/-		
				Sd/- **Executive Engineer (Central)**		

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurment process can be obtained by logging on to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/BCPL/4160/2022-23

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client has negotiated to purchase the Properties scheduled below from its owners 1) Sri Krishnappa & Others 2) Sri Rajappa & Others 3) Sri Rajappa & Others 4) Sri Ramappa R/a & Others & 5) Sri Nagappa & Others respectively. All are Hedaginabele Village, Kasaba Hobli, Malluru Taluk, Kolar District.

Objections /claims if any to the proposed transaction of sale or in respect of below Schedule Properties may be lodged with the undersigned in writing along with documentary proof within **10 days** from hereof, failing which our client shall finalise the transaction. Objections received beyond the said period shall not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

Item No.1 (belonging to Sri Krishnappa & Others): All that piece and parcel of the agriculture land in New Sy. No.82/1, (Old No.82) totally extending over 0-14.08 Guntas, Situated at Hedaginabele Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mallur Taluk and bounded as

Item No.2 (belonging to Sri Rajappa & Others): All that piece and parcel of the agriculture land in New Sy. No.82/2, (Old No.82) totally extending over 0-14 ½ Guntas, Situated at Hedaginabele Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mallur Taluk and bounded as East by: Land belonging to Rajappa, West by: Land belonging to Krishnappa, North by: Land belonging to Ramappa, South by: Land belonging to Ramakka.

Item No.3 (belonging to Sri Rajappa & Others): All that piece and parcel of the agriculture land in New Sy. No.82/3, (Old No.82) totally extending over 0-15 Guntas, Situated at Hedaginabele Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mallur Taluk and bounded as East by : Bellavi Boundary (Land belonging to Dasappa, West by : Land belonging to Nagappa, North by : Land belonging to Muddappa, South by : Erabanahalli Boundary, (Land belonging to Narayanareddy).

Item No.4 (belonging to Sri Ramappa & Others & Others): All that piece and parcel of the agriculture land in New Sy. No.82/4, (Old No.82) totally extending over 0-22 Guntas, Situated at Hedaginabele Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mallur Taluk and bounded as East by: Land belonging to Dasappa, West by: Land belonging to Chikka Thimmaiah, North by: Land belonging to Sri Nagappa, South by : Land belonging to Sri Nagappa, Sri Rajappa and Sri Krishnappa.

Item No.5 (belonging to Sri Nagappa & Others): All that piece and parcel of the agriculture land in New Sy. No.82/5, (Old No.82) totally extending over 0-22 Guntas, Situated at Hedaginabele Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mallur Taluk and bounded as East by: Land belonging to Dasappa, West by: Land belonging to Chikka Thimmaiah, North by: Land belonging to Doddappaiah, South by: Land belonging to Sri Muddappa.

H.R. Sreepada, Advocate
Ram Bhat & Sreepada Associates,
No.20, 6th Cross, 8th Main,
Vasanthanagar, Bengaluru.
Mob:9844076629 Date: 12.01.2023

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VINTAGE BEST

Kohli climbs back into top-five in ODI rankings

Back at his vintage best, former India skipper Virat Kohli jumped two places to break into the top-five in the latest ICC ODI rankings released on Wednesday. Kohli now has 750 points and has Rassie van der Dussen (766) and Quinton de Kock (759) in his sights, while Pakistan skipper Babar Azam remains way out in front (887 points).

EASY OUTING

Bengaluru scores a thumping win over Jamshedpur in ISL

Bengaluru FC prevailed over home side Jamshedpur FC 3-0 in the Indian Super League on Wednesday. The win helped the former champion move to the seventh spot with 19 points.
The scores: Jamshedpur FC 0 lost to Bengaluru FC 3 (Rohit Kumar 7, Roy Krishna 34, Siva Narayanan 62).

BACK IN THE MIX

West Indies recalls Gabriel for Zimbabwe Tests

West Indies on Tuesday recalled fast bowler Shannon Gabriel for next month's two-Test series in Zimbabwe with Jayden Seales sidelined after undergoing knee surgery. Left-arm spinners Gudakesh Motie and Jomel Warrican were also named in a 15-man squad, while seamer Anderson Phillip was ruled out because of injury.

FAMILIARITY

Root believes India experience can help England in World Cup

Former England Test skipper Joe Root feels the experience of playing in India will be helpful when his team starts its campaign to defend the 50-over World Cup in October-November this year. "I think guys have spent a lot of time in India and understand those conditions well. It will depend on how we play spin consistently," he said.

Gill on fire, smashes a classy double ton; India survives Bracewell's assault

Siraj returns a four-for as the Men in Blue pull off a nail-biting 12-run win in a run-fest to take a 1-0 lead as New Zealand gets bowled out for 337 in pursuit of the victory target of 350; Kuldeep picks up two wickets in a teasing spell

NZ IN INDIA

V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM
HYDERABAD

Shubman Gill served yet another reminder that he has come to stay at the top of the batting order, smashing a superb double century (208, 149b, 19x4, 9x6) and local boy Mohammed Siraj returned the best figures at this venue (four for 46) to help India pull off a 12-run win over New Zealand for which Michael Bracewell cracked a magnificent century (140, 78b, 12x4, 10x6) in the first of the three-match Mastercard ODI series at Rajiv Gandhi Stadium here on Wednesday.

Chasing 350, the Kiwis struggled at the top despite opener Finn Allen's breezy knock. Fast bowler Mohammed Siraj, playing his first ODI at home, induced opener Devon Conway to pull straight to the fielder in the deep in the sixth over, and a similar strategy sent back the Kiwi captain Tom Latham.

Chinaman bowler Kuldeep Yadav bowled a teasing line and length in the first spell to pick up two wickets and soon the dangerous Glenn Phillips was bowled by Shami to make it 110 for five in 24.3 overs.

When an early finish was expected, the seventh-wicket pair of Bracewell and Mitchell Santner, which put on 162 off 102 balls with breathtaking strokeplay, tested the Indian attack and threatened to take the game away from India before Siraj came back in the 46th over to strike a double blow – removing Santner and rearranging the stumps of Henry Shipley. Siraj's figures were the best at this venue, surpassing Umesh Yadav's haul of four for 53 against Sri Lanka in 2014.

Earlier, it was Shubman Gill show all the way, batting with authority and a touch of class. The way he paced the innings to become the youngest ever double centurion in ODIs was just brilliant.

The 23-year-old opener, playing his 19th ODI, scored his third hundred overall, was lucky to survive twice – once on 45 when captain Tom Latham missed a stumping chance off off-break bowler Michael Bracewell and then on 124 when pacer Henry Shipley failed to latch on to a difficult return catch.

Gill hit six sixes in all and no fours from 147 till he reached the magical double century – including three huge ones on the trot in the 49th over by pacer Lockie Ferguson – to a standing ovation was a fitting tribute to him. He recorded the highest individual score at the venue (previous best 175 by Sachin Tendulkar against the Aussies in 2009).

Blazing away: Gill's blistering double century took India to a mammoth total. NAGARA GOPAL

Earlier, captain Rohit Sharma tried to loft pacer Blair Tickner over the bowler's head only to end up giving a simple catch to mid-on.

Virat Kohli was greeted to lusty cheers but disappointed the fans – bowled by left-arm spinner Mitchell Santner – as the ball slipped past the backfoot, defensive push.

After Suryakumar Yadav's soft dismissal, it was Gill who held the centrestage, with his second consecutive century in ODIs, following the one against Sri Lanka in Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA
Rohit Sharma c Mitchell b Tickner 34 *(38b, 4x4, 2x6)*, Shubman Gill c Phillips b Shipley 208 *(149b, 19x4, 9x6)*, Virat Kohli b Santner 8 *(10b, 1x4)*, Ishan Kishan c Latham b Ferguson 5 *(14b)*, Suryakumar Yadav c Santner b Mitchell 31 *(26b, 4x4)*, Hardik Pandya b Mitchell 28 *(38b, 3x4)*, Washington Sundar lbw b Shipley 12 *(14b)*, Shardul Thakur run out 3 *(3b)*, Kuldeep Yadav (not out) 5 *(6b)*, Mohammed Shami (not out) 2 *(2b)*; Extras (w-13): 13; Total (for eight wkts. in 50 overs): 349.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-60 (Rohit, 12.1 overs), 2-88 (Kohli, 15.2), 3-110 (Kishan, 19.4), 4-175 (Suryakumar, 28.3), 5-249 (Hardik, 39.4), 6-292 (Washington, 44.6), 7-302 (Shardul, 46.4), 8-345 (Gill, 49.2).

NEW ZEALAND BOWLING
Shipley 9-0-74-2, Ferguson 10-0-77-1, Tickner 10-0-69-1, Santner 10-0-56-1, Bracewell 6-0-43-0, Mitchell 5-0-30-2.

NEW ZEALAND
Finn Allen c sub b Shardul 40 (39b, 7x4, 1x6), Devon Conway c Kuldeep b Siraj 10 *(16b, 2x4)*, Henry Nicholls b Kuldeep 18 *(31b, 3x4)*, Daryl Mitchell lbw b Kuldeep 9 *(12b)*, Tom Latham c Washington b Siraj 24 *(46b, 3x4)*, Glenn Phillips b Shami 11 *(20b, 1x6)*, Michael Bracewell lbw b Shardul 140 *(78b, 12x4, 10x6)*, Mitchell Santner c Suryakumar b Siraj 57 *(45b, 7x4, 1x6)*, Henry Shipley b Siraj 0 *(1b)*, Lockie Ferguson c Gill b Hardik 8 *(7b, 1x4)*, Blair Tickner (not out) 1 (1b); Extras (lb-5, w-14): 19; Total (in 49.2 overs): 337.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-28 (Conway, 5.4), 2-70 (Allen, 12.5), 3-78 (Nicholls, 15.3), 4-89 (Mitchell, 17.4), 5-110 (Phillips, 24.3), 6-131 (Latham, 28.4), 7-293 (Santner, 45.4), 8-294 (Shipley, 45.5), 9-328 (Ferguson, 48.3).

INDIA BOWLING
Shami 10-1-69-1, Siraj 10-2-46-4, Hardik 7-0-70-1, Kuldeep 8-1-43-2, Shardul 7.2-0-54-2, Washington 7-0-50-0.

Toss: India. **PoM:** Gill
India won by 12 runs to take a 1-0 lead in three-match series.
Second ODI: January 21, Raipur, 1.30 p.m.

Top wrestlers stage protest, seek removal of WFI president

Venting her views: Vinesh addresses the media in New Delhi on Wednesday. Bajrang and Sakshi are also seen. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Leading wrestlers of the country – Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat and Sakshi Malik – along with scores of others, staged a dharna at Jantar Mantar on Wednesday, seeking the removal of Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh as the president of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI). The wrestlers not only complained about the arbitrary system of the federation, but also alleged sexual harassment.

One of the major complaints was regarding the trials before important international championships. "The trials are held only 10 days before the championships. Wrestlers are intimated only 2-3 days before the trials.

"We demand that the WFI president Brij Bhushan be removed because he is not letting wrestlers train in a proper manner. He introduces rules in an arbitrary manner. This is not acceptable to us any more," was the crux of the demand.

In his defence, the WFI president said that the federation was only trying to make it a fair game for everyone by having trials. "Why has there been no problem for 10 years. We have now studied the system in various countries to have the best system for Olympic selection," Brij Bhushan told the media. He also sought the wrestlers to be specific about the sexual harassment charges.

Ministry cancels camp
Taking note of the allegations, the Union Sports Ministry cancelled the training camp of women wrestlers scheduled to start in Lucknow on Wednesday and asked the WFI for explanation to all the charges within 72 hours.

India needs to guard against complacency against Wales

HOCKEY WORLD CUP

Uthra Ganesan
BHUBANESWAR

On paper, India will be firm favourite to win against Wales in its final hockey World Cup Pool D match here on Friday. The gap between the two teams is evident in every possible way – ranking, experience, legacy, expectations, support. It's the last two ones that will be what India coach Graham Reid calls dual-edged swords.

The injury to Hardik Singh was a dampener for India, but things are looking better for the youngster for future games.

The 15,000-capacity Kalinga Stadium is expected to be packed and while Wales did face the crowd in Rourkela, this would be the first time the Welsh would feel the full force of it, playing against the host.

India's defence has come good against tougher opponents so far and will be looking to maintain the momentum against Wales without getting complacent. The forward line of Shamsher Singh, Abhishek, Sukhjeet Singh and Mandeep Singh will look to finally find the target although it won't be easy.

Having fun: The Indian players enjoy a game of tag during their training session on Wednesday. BISWARANJAN ROUT

And India's penalty corner conversion, the one area of concern for the host, will be tested – England could convert only two out of twelve and Spain managed to earn only two. As of now, India's actual win margin requirement will depend on the result of Spain vs England match earlier in the day.

Of course, the best option for India vis-a-vis the other Pool D game would be Spain defeating England. That would not only see Spain leapfrog into second position but also leave India to manage just a win to top the Pool without bothering with the number of goals.

Spain has had one win so far, but the youthful side has been impressive in its confident and tactical play and will not be an easy opponent for its European rival. At the same time, England's woes with penalty corners has continued, making any bets on the result of the face-off risky.

Today's matches
Pool C: Malaysia vs New Zealand (1 p.m.), Netherlands vs Chile (3 p.m.)
Pool D: Spain vs England (5 p.m.), India vs Wales (7 p.m.).

Dutee fails dope test, provisionally suspended

GENERAL

Stan Rayan
KOCHI

Dutee Chand, the country's fastest woman ever, a World University Games 100m gold medallist and a double silver medallist at the last Asian Games in in 2018, has failed an out-of-competition dope test and has been provisionally suspended.

The 26-year-old's 'A' sample (urine) in the test taken on December 5 showed traces of andarine, ostarine – which are among the most popular selective androgen receptor modulators (SARMs) used as performance-enhancing drugs by athletes – and ligandrol.

They come under other anabolic agents in the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA) list and are prohibited at all times.

Sumariwalla clarifies
Adille Sumariwalla, the Athletics Federation of India president, said that the federation would not make an official statement till the sprinter's 'B' sample was tested. But he made it clear that Dutee was not in the national camp when the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) officials came to test her.

Dutee Chand. FILE PHOTO

"She was not in the National Camp, nor was she training with the AFI National coach Ramesh in Hyderabad when the sample was taken. She was in at her domicile in Odisha," Sumariwalla told *The Hindu* on Wednesday.

If Dutee wants her 'B' sample to be tested and if it returns positive, she could face a four-year ban.

Injured Nadal crashes out in the second round

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Agence France-Presse
MELBOURNE

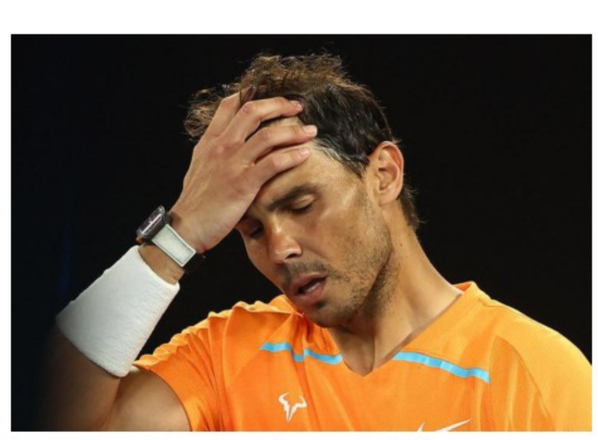
Defending champion and top seed Rafael Nadal hobbled out of the second round, losing to 65th-ranked Mackenzie McDonald, at the Australian Open on Wednesday.

Nadal was clearly hindered by a hip issue that required a medical timeout, as he went down 6-4, 6-4, 7-5 to the American.

It was the reigning champion's earliest exit from a Slam in seven years and will lead to more questions about whether injury and age are catching up with the record 22-time Major champion.

Nadal said defeat "hurt" and acknowledged that injuries were taking a toll. "I am tired, I am sad, I am disappointed, all this is a reality. From here on... what I want is to continue playing tennis," he said.

Fallen seeds
Men: 1-Nadal, 32-van de Zandschulp
Women: 8-Kasatkina, 14-Maia, 15-Kvitova, 29-Zheng, 32-Teichmann



Agony: Disappointment is writ large on Nadal's face. REUTERS

IMPORTANT RESULTS

Men: Second round: McDonald (USA) bt 1-Nadal (Esp) 6-4, 6-4, 7-5; 31-Nishioka (Jpn) bt Svrcina (Cze) 6-3, 6-4, 6-2; 18-Khachanov bt Kubler (Aus) 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, 6-2; 16-Tiafoe (USA) bt Shang (Chn) 6-4, 6-4, 6-1; 10-Hurkacz (Pol) bt Sonego (Ita) 3-6, 7-6(3), 2-6, 6-3, 6-3; 20-Shapovalov (Can) bt Daniel (Jpn) 6-3, 7-6 (3), 7-5; 29-Korda (USA) bt Yosuke Watanuki (Jpn) 6-2, 7-5, 6-4; 7-Medvedev bt Millman (Aus) 7-5, 6-2, 6-2; 3-Tsitsipas (Gre) bt Hijikata (Aus) 6-3, 6-0, 6-2; Griekspoor (Ned) bt 32-van de Zandschulp (Ned) 6-4, 6-4, 6-4; 15-Sinner (Ita) bt Etcheverry (Ara) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; 6-Auger-Aliassime (Can) bt Molcan (Svk) 3-6, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.
First round: 24-Bautista (Esp) bt Sousa (Por) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.

Women: Second round: 1-Swiatek (Pol) bt Osorio (Col) 6-2, 6-3; 22-Rybakina (Kaz) bt Juvan (Slo) 6-2, 6-1; 13-Collins (USA) bt Muchova (Cze) 6-7(1), 6-2, 7-6(10/6); 17-Ostapenko (Lat) bt Bondar (Hun) 7-6(5), 5-7, 6-0; Pera (USA) bt 29-Zheng (Chn) 6-4, 6-4; 7-Gauff (USA) bt Raducanu (GBr) 6-3, 7-6(4); 3-Pegula (USA) bt Sasnovich (Blr) 6-2, 7-6(5); 20-Krejcikova (Cze) bt Burel (Fra) 6-4, 6-1; Kalinina (Ukr) bt 15-Kvitova (Cze) 7-5, 6-4; 10-Keys (USA) bt Wang (Chn) 6-3, 6-2; 24-Azarenka (Blr) bt Podoroska (Arg) 6-1, 6-0; Zhu (Chn) bt 32-Teichmann (Sui) 6-2, 6-2; 6-Sakkari (Gre) bt Shnaider (Rus) 3-6, 7-5, 6-3.
First round: Gracheva bt 8-Kasatkina (Rus) 6-1, 6-1; Diaz (Esp) bt 14-Maia 7-6(11), 6-2.

INBRIEF

Mandande gives Zimbabwe last-ball victory

Wicketkeeper Clive Madande hit a four off the last ball of the game to win the first ODI for Zimbabwe against Ireland by three wickets after rain shortened the series-opener in Harare on Wednesday. Earlier, captain Andy Balbirnie struck 121 before retiring hurt while Harry Tector scored an unbeaten 101 as Ireland posted 288 for four off 50 overs.

The scores: Ireland 288/4 in 50 overs (A. Balbirnie 121 retd. hurt, H. Tector 101 n.o.) lost to Zimbabwe 214/7 in 37 overs (R. Burl 59, S. Raza 43, C. Ervine 38, G. Ballance 23). Zimbabwe won by three wickets on DLS method.

India U19 women storm into World Cup Super Six

The spin trio of Mannat Kashyap, Archana Devi and Sonam Yadav's sensational bowling display helped India thrash Scotland by 83 runs and storm into the Super Six of the inaugural Women's U19 T20 World Cup in Benoni on Wednesday.

Opting to bat, India lost their star opener and skipper Shafali Verma (1) in the second over.

It was Gongadi Trisha's valiant 57 off 51 deliveries and Shweta Sehrawat's counter-attacking cameo of 31 not out off 10 balls that propelled India to 149 for four.

The scores: India 149/4 in 20 overs (Gongadi Risha 57, Richa Ghosh 33, Shweta Sehrawat 31) bt Scotland 66 in 13.1 overs (Mannat Kashyap 4/12, Archana Devi 3/14, Sonam Yadav 2/1).

Thumping win for Indian women over South Africa

The Indian women's hockey team registered another big win on the tour of South Africa, crushing the hosts 7-0 in the second match, with stalwart Rani, returning after a long injury lay-off, scoring her second goal of the series.

India will play South Africa on Thursday.

The result: India 7 (Vandana 2, Udita, Vaishnavi, Rani, Sangita, Navneet) bt South Africa 0.

Chandu's five-for fashions Karnataka's big win

V. Chandu's five-wicket haul (5/23) helped Karnataka register a convincing eight-wicket win over Chandigarh in the BCCI senior women's one day trophy in Mumbai.

The scores: Chandigarh 127 in 47.4 overs (Aaradhana D. Bisht 37 n.o., V. Chandu 5/23) lost to Karnataka 129/2 in 19.1 overs (Divya Gnanananda 38 n.o., Veda Krishnamurthy 36 n.o.).

LIVE TELECAST

Australian Open: Sony Sports Ten 2, 3, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 5.30 a.m. & 1.30 p.m.
Ranji Trophy: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 9.30 a.m.
Hockey World Cup: SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 1, 3, 5 & 7 p.m.
I-League: Eurosport (SD & HD), 4.30 p.m.
ISL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Women's T20I tri-series: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 10.30 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 1.30 a.m. (Friday)

Axelsen stretches his winning sequence over Srikanth to seven

The Indian, after leading in the second game, self-destructs against the top-ranked World and Olympic champion; Aakarshi, Malvika also crash out along with women's pair of Ashwini and Shikha on the second day

INDIA OPEN

Rakesh Rao
NEW DELHI

Coming into the second day of the $900,000 Yonex-Sunrise India Open, K. Srikanth was aiming to put together the play that once took him to the World No. 1 spot. In the last few seasons, lack of peak fitness apart, Srikanth's inconsistency has played a major part in him going out of the world's top-10.

In the same period, Viktor Axelsen's stature has grown. The World and Olympic champion is truly worthy of the World No. 1 tag by some distance. But until 2017, a contest involving Srikanth and Axelsen was too close to call with Srikanth's three wins coming in three games while an equal number of losses were straight-game affairs.

Powering through: Axelsen lived up to his top billing with a straight-games win over Srikanth. R.V. MOORTHY

On Wednesday, Axelsen stretched his winning sequence over Srikanth to seven, spreading into a new, sixth season. Shockingly, Srikanth once again failed to take a game off his famed rival despite enjoying a 14-5 lead in the second game.

The most noticeable part of Axelsen's 10th victory without dropping a game to Srikanth was he did not play well. He still ended his rival's campaign with a 21-14, 21-19 scoreline.

Lack of self-belief

Axelsen showed what confidence does to a performer. In contrast, lack of self-belief was all too evident with despair as writ large on Srikanth's face after the 41-minute defeat.

Far more than the expected straight-game exits of Aakarshi Kashyap and Malvika Bansod besides the women's pair of Ashwini Bhat-Shikha Gautam, this kind of defeat is sure to hurt Srikanth.

Even Axelsen praised Srikanth's play that gave him a nine-point lead in the second game but that was no consolation for the Indian. Srikanth started well in both games. He led 7-5 with a fine mix of aggression and some deft placements. But Axelsen clawed back to win six out of the next seven points for a 11-8 lead at the mid-game break, Srikanth faded.

In the second, too, once Axelsen scripted a comeback from 5-14 by cutting down firm strokes, focussing increasingly on soft flicks in dominating the net-play. Soon, exasperation led Srikanth to a series of errors. The unhurried Dane caught up at 19 and soon crossed the line, with hands raised in triumph.

Leading first-round results:
Men: Viktor Axelsen (Den) bt K. Srikanth 21-14, 21-19; Loh Kean Yew (Sin) bt Kodai Naraoka (Jpn) 21-18, 9-21, 7-21; Lee Zii Jia (Mal) bt Shesar Hiren Rhustavito (Ina) 20-22, 21-19, 21-12;Anthony Sinisuka Ginting (Ina) bt Lu Guang Zu (Chn) 19-21, 21-19, 21-19;
Women: Beiwen Zhang (USA) bt Aakarshi Kashyap 21-15, 21-12; Busanan Ongbamrungphan (Tha) bt Malvika Bansod 21-17, 21-12.
Doubles: Pearly Tan & Thinaah Muralitharan (Mal) bt Ashwini Bhat & Shikha Gautam 21-8, 21-11.

Pragg stuns Ding, goes to joint third spot

Sports Bureau

R. Praggnanandhaa scored the biggest victory of his promising career at the expense of World No. 2 Ding Liren and moved to joint third spot after four rounds of the Tata Steel Masters chess tournament at Wijk aan Zee on Tuesday.

Fourth-round results: Masters: Ding Liren (2) lost to R. Praggnanandhaa (2.5); Vincent Keymer (Ger, 1.5) drew with Arjun Erigaisi (2); Jorden van Foreest (Ned, 1.5) drew with D. Gukesh (1); Anish Giri (Ned, 3) bt Magnus Carlsen (2); Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzb, 3) bt Parham Maghsoodloo (Iri, 1.5); Richard Rapport (Rom, 1.5) drew with Fabiano Caruana (USA, 2.5); Wesley So (USA, 2) drew with Levon Aronian (USA, 2).
Challengers: B. Adhiban (2) drew with Javokhir Sindarov (Uzb, 2.5); Velimir Ivic (Ser, 3) bt R. Vaishali (0.5); Mustafa Yilmaz (Tur, 3) bt Max Warmerdam (Ned, 2); Jergus Pechac (Slo, 0.5) lost to Alexander Donchenko (Ger, 3); Eline Roebers (Ned, 2) drew with Amin Tabatabaei (Iri, 2.5); Luis Supi (Bra, 2) drew with Thomas Beerdsen (Ned, 2); Abhimanyu Mishra (USA, 1.5) lost to Erwin L'Ami (Ned, 1.5).

Skipper Mayank leads from the front to put Karnataka in control

RANJI TROPHY

M.R. Praveen Chandran
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

When off spinner Vaishak Chandran ripped through Karnataka opener R. Samarth's defence in the first over, the signs were ominous for the visitors but skipper Mayank Agarwal's classy unbeaten 87 put his side in control at the end of the second day's play in the Ranji Trophy cricket match against Kerala at the KCA-St.Xavier's College ground on Wednesday.

Karnataka, in reply to Kerala's first innings total of 342, recovered from the early loss of its opener to score 137 for two at stumps. Mayank was pretty comfortable against both spinners and medium pacers and he resurrected the innings with Devdutt Padikkal (29). The two added 89 runs for the second wicket which seized the initiative from Kerala. Mayank attacked the spinners and showed the intent by lofting Vaisakh through long-on for a six. Mayank repeated the shots against both Jalaj Saxena and Sijomon Joseph as runs came at a fast clip in the second session.

The hardworking M.D. Nidheesh broke through soon after tea by breaching Dev Padikkal's defence. S.J. Nikin Jose struggled but hung around with Mayank to add an unbroken 46 runs for the third wicket.

In command: Mayank Agarwal showed he was pretty comfortable against both spinners and medium pacers. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

There wasn't much swing for the Karnataka bowlers in the morning and the overnight pair of Sachin Baby and Jalaj Saxena survived the opening hour without much difficulty. However, Sachin Baby's (141) watchful innings ended when he edged Gopal to Manish Pandey in the slips. Jalaj progressed to his first half century of the season by pulling Shreyas Gopal for a boundary and added 37 runs for the eighth wicket with captain Sijomon Joseph (24).

V. Koushik knocked out Jalaj's (57) middle stump to earn a well deserved fifth wicket. The last wicket pair of Nidheesh (22) and Vaisakh Chandran (12 not out) added 25 to frustrate the visitors.

The scores:
Kerala — 1st innings: P.Rahul lbw Koushik 0, Rohan Kunnummal c Jose b Koushik 5, Rohan Prem c Padikkkal b Vyshak 0, Sachin Baby c Pandey b Gopal 141, Vathsal Govind c Sharath b Koushik 46, Salman Nizar b Koushik 0, Akshay Chandran c Hegde b Gopal 17, Jalaj Saxena b Koushik 57, Sijomon Joseph b Gowtham 24, Vaisakh Chandran not out 12, M.D. Nidheesh lbw Koushik 22; Extras (b 8, lb 4, nb 6): 18; Total (in 130.1 overs): 342.
Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-1, 3-6, 4-126, 5-128, 6-174, 7-262, 8-299, 9-317.
Karnataka bowling: Koushik 22.1-5-54-6, Vyshak 24-3-81-1, K. Gowtham 39-8-78-1, Hegde 17-2-48-0, Gopal 28-5-64-2.
Karnataka — 1st innings: R. Samarth b Vaisakh 0, Mayank Agarwal batting 87, Devdutt Padikkal b Nidheesh 29, S.J. Nikin Jose batting 16; Extras (b 3, 1b 1, nb 1): 5; Total (for two wkts. in 49 overs): 137.
Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-91.
Kerala bowling: Vaisakh 12-2-37-1, Nidheesh 12-1-29-1, Jalaj 10-0-39-0, Sijomon 13-2-24-0, Akshay 2-0-4-0.

RANJI TROPHY SCORES

Elite (Round six, day two):
Group A: Baroda 86 & 101/3 in 40 overs vs. Uttarakhand 199 in 77.4 overs (Swapnil Singh 63, Akhil Rawat 45, Ninad Rathva 4/19).
Odisha 226 in 87 overs (Shantanu Mishra 109, Rajesh Dhuper 62, Abhishek Raut 43, Kunal Yadav 5/47) vs. Uttar Pradesh 257/4 in 68 overs (Dhruv Jurel 44, Priyam Garg 122, Rinku Singh 73 batting).
Himachal Pradesh 346 in 104.5 overs (Ankit Kalsi 160 n.o., Nikhil Gangta 41, Rishi Dhawan 40, Mayank Dagar 58, Imliwati Lemtur 5/74) vs. Nagaland 186/5 in 61 overs (Rongsen Jonathan 67 batting, Hokaito Zhimomi 41).
Bengal 419 in 113.4 overs (Abhimanyu Easwaran 57, Anustup Majumdar 145, Abishek Porel 49, Harshal Patel 4/80) vs. Haryana 163 in 52 overs (Sumit Kumar 70 n.o., Akash Deep 5/61).
Group B: Andhra 415 in 141.3 overs (Abhishek Reddy 46, Ricky Bhui 80, Ashwin Hebbar 109) vs. Saurashtra 122/3 in 31 overs (Sheldon Jackson 63 batting).
Tamil Nadu 540 in 132.3 overs (N. Jagadeesan 125, B. Indrajith 77, Pradosh Ranjan Paul 153, Vijay Shankar 112, Riyan Parag 4/101) vs. Assam 120/4 in 45 overs (Riyan Parag 48).
Mumbai 293 vs. Delhi 316/7 in 90 overs (Hrithik Shokeen 45, Vaibhav Rawal 114, Himmat Singh 85).
Maharashtra 385 in 96.2 overs (Naushad Shaikh 152, Kedar Jadhav 71, Ashay Palkar 61, Kartikeya Kak 7/91) vs. Hyderabad 176/5 in 75 overs (Rohit Rayudu 68, Rahul Radesh 55).
Group C: Services 175 vs. Goa 281/5 in 108 overs (Manthan Khutkar 82, Eknath Kerkar 85 batting, Darshan Misal 58 batting).
Pondicherry 231 in 91.4 overs (Paras Dogra 68, K.B. Arun Karthik 68) vs. Jharkhand 250/3 in 84 overs (Aryaman Sen 44, Kumar Suraj 45, Virat Singh 79 batting, Saurabh Tiwary 58 batting).
Kerala 342 in 130.1 overs (Sachin Baby 141, Vathsal Govind 46, Jalaj Saxena 57, Vasuki Koushik 6/54) vs. Karnataka 137/2 in 49 overs (Mayank Agarwal 87 batting).
Rajasthan 360 in 93 overs (Mahipal Lomror 47, Samarpit Joshi 123, Sahil Dhiwan 41, Manav Suthar 64 n.o., Ravi Kiran 4/108) vs. Chhattisgarh 198/9 in 77 overs (Ajay Mandal 48, Vashudev Bareth 42, Aniket Choudhary 4/25).
Group D: Punjab 443 in 116.2 overs (Anmolpreet Singh 124, Nehal Wadhera 214) vs. Madhya Pradesh 150/6 in 54.4 overs (Yash Dubey 50, Shubham Sharma 50).
Jammu & Kashmir 241/3 in 103 overs (Abhinav Puri 121, Shubham Khajuria 53, Vivrant Sharma 55) vs. Tripura.
Railways 386 in 108.1 overs (Vivek Singh 108, Upendra Yadav 113, Sandeep Sharma 6/116) vs. Chandigarh 212/2 in 67 overs (Manan Vohra 113 batting, Kunal Mahajan 66 batting).
Vidarbha 74 & 254 in 65.5 overs (Atharva Taide 44, Jitesh Sharma 69, Nachiket Bhute 42, Siddharth Desai 6/74) vs. Gujarat 256 in 70.1 overs (Aarya Desai 88, Bhargav Merai 40, Aditya Sarwate 5/64) & 6/1 in 3 overs.
Plate (semifinals): Bihar 428 in 105.3 overs (Sachin Kumar 75, Bipin Saurabh 177, Sakibul Gani 43, Veer Pratap Singh 50) & 28/0 in 9 overs vs. Meghalaya 134 in 33.5 overs (Rajesh Bishnoi 40 n.o., Ashutosh Aman 4/21).
Sikkim 229 & 85/4 in 37 overs (Sumit Singh 44 batting) vs. Manipur 166 in 63.4 overs (Bijay Prasad 4/18).
Fifth place play-off: Arunachal Pradesh 199 vs. Mizoram 332/6 in 91 overs (Taruwar Kohli 144, Joseph Lalthankhuma 73, Avinash Yadav 40 batting).

BENGALURU ROUND UP

Kuber's unbeaten 315 highlights St. Paul's win

Brahmanya Theertha R. Kuber scored a triple-century (315 n.o., 181b, 58x4) as St. Paul's English School thrashed BNM School by a whopping 400-run margin in the BTR Shield under-14 (Group I) second division tournament.

Kuber (St. Paul's, 315 n.o).

The scores: Jyothy Kendriya Vidyalaya 128 in 44.2 overs (N. Nayan Shandilya 63, S. Pranav 6/18) lost to Vidyaniketan PS, CBSE 129/4 in 27.5 overs (Samanth N. Bhat 54 n.o.).

Inventure Academy 363/8 in 50 overs (Sahil Mittal 94, Vedant Sunil Varhadkar 100, Prithvisarth 43 n.o., Saharsh R. Shetty 3/33) bt Presidency School, Nandini Layout 251 in 49.2 overs (M.V. Rahul Gowda 35, Aryan Kavan Gowda 129, Akshath P. Satish 3/47).

St. Paul's English School 541/6 in 49 overs (Brahmanya Theertha R. Kuber 315 n.o., H.S. Aditya 57, K. Adarsh Prabhu 28, Faiz Ul Haq 37 n.o.) bt BNM School 141 in 40.5 overs (Abhishek Agarwal 29, K. Rudraksh 43, Arya Vardan 29 n.o., Brahmanya Theertha R. Kuber 3/23, Faiz Ul Haq 3/13).

St. Francis School, ICSE 194 in 48.4 overs (Mahith Bandi 31, Harshvardhan Nishikanth 33, Vaibhav Shetty 33 n.o., Nirmanyu Kishore 5/47) lost to Vibgyor High, Marathahalli 196/7 in 48.4 overs (Nihaal Rajendraprasad Pagaku 73 n.o., Satvik Desai 27, Suddhashil Chakraborty 3/25).

Carmel School Padmanabhanagar 172 in 31.5 overs (S.P. Banesh 93, Navneet Anil Kumar 29 n.o., Dhanyath H. Gowda 3/11) bt BGS International Residential School 101 in 30.1 overs (S.P. Banesh 3/12, S. Amogh Sanil 3/18).

Sri Aurobindo Mem School, CBSE 366/6 in 50 overs (J. Nischal 57, Rishi Bathla 114, Arghya Choudhary 79, S. Siddh 38 n.o., R. Vismay Krishna 3/53) bt St. Joseph's Indian Primary School 197 in 38.3 overs (G. Pranav 108, R. Vismay Krishna 58, S. Siddh 5/23, Kavyu Dugar 3/35).

Christ School, ICSE 119 in 31.1 overs (Gurvir Singh 41, M. Thaman Sai 4/34) lost to Frank Anthony Public School 120/3 in 14.3 overs (Rrishi Saklecha 29, Nakka Manvesh Vasu 27, S. Rishi Harivatsa 27 n.o.).

Chiranth's incisive bowling does it for Merchants

V. Chiranth's six-wicket haul (6/13) was instrumental in Merchants CC (2)'s thumping 10-wicket win over Friends Cricket Team in the KSCA (Group I) fourth division league.

The scores: Friends Cricket Team 120 in 31.3 overs (Rohith N. Jain 59, N.J. Gowtham 3/18, V. Chiranth 6/13) lost to Merchants CC (2) 121 for no loss in 19.1 overs (Bharath Kalachar 73 n.o., Likith S. Gowda 39 n.o.).

City Gymkhana 184 in 47 overs (Chirag 29, Poornachandra 45, Sandipan Roy 39 n.o.) lost to Eleven Brothers CC, Magadi 185/4 in 39.1 overs (K. Vinay Kumar 71, Narra Chandra 26).

Indiranagar Cricketers 183 in 48.3 overs (Prashanth Giridhara 53, Rakesh Shetty 29 n.o., C. Raghavendra 3/39, Raunak Shah 3/25) lost to Blue Diamond Cricketers 176/4 in 30.4 overs (S. Karthik 67, M.G. Vinyas 45, K. C. Avinash 39 n.o.).

Sirupark SC 244/9 in 50 overs (R.K. Venkata Sunil 30, Anish John 64, Adithya Rai 69) lost to Young Challenging Cricketers 245/8 in 48.4 overs (R. Darshan 39, V. Saatwik 61, J. Mahendra Kumar 51 n.o.).

Victory CC 143 in 30 overs (Sireesh Balgaar 59, Rajat Hegde 3/30, R. Praveen Kumar 4/26) lost to Jayanagar Cricketers 144/5 in 20.2 overs (S. Abhishek Reddy 55, Sachin R. Gankal 3/64).

Shanthinagar Cricketers 168 in 39 overs (Rishab Krish 43, M.A. Tejas Krishnan 30, D. Ashok 3/49, M. Maheeb 4/21) lost to Spartans SC 171/3 in 17.5 overs (Mohammed Muttallib 36, T. Aziz Ulla 52 n.o., D. Ashok 53 n.o.).

Jeevanbhimanagar CC 217 in 44.3 overs (Faizan 28, M.R. Prithvi Raj 117, Harish Raju 34, Sundar 3/59) bt Jayanagar United Cricketers 176 in 42.1 overs (L. Guruprasad 33, Bhaskar 33, Tejaswy Kolchippu 28, Karan Kumar Sharma 4/27).

Young Lions Club 267 in 48.3 overs (Deepak Shanker 34, H. Sarvesh Raju 125, Manish Kumar 25, V.P. Vikas 3/51, K. Sharan 4/38) bt YFA SC 166 in 38.1 overs (K. Sharan 27, K. Anil Vishwanath 39 n.o., Manish Kumar 3/27).

Malleswaram United CC 269 in 46 overs (N.M. Shashank 53, V. Pavan Prasad 30, K. Nihal Gowda 28, Animesh Sahu 64, Abhishek Bopanna 3/63, M. Prathish 3/61) bt Maharana CC 170 in 35 overs (M. Prathish 25, Darshan U. Jain 37, Bhuvan Vishwanth 38, Arya J. Gowda 3/71, Prathap 4/30).

Silky Town CC, Channapatna 141 in 39.3 overs (H.V. Naveen Kumar 36, Hardik Oza 4/12) bt Magadi CC 89 in 30.3 overs (Vijay P. Gowda 27, H. Venkatesh 3/28, Syed Asif Pasha 6/17).

Crescent CC (1) 118 in 24.2 overs (S. Chethan 32, L. Thejas 3/23, Ananth Prabu Deva Prasad 4/18) lost to City Cricketers (1) 105/3 in 14.4 overs (Alok Deshpande 25, L. Thejas 36 n.o.).

Tanishka loses to Saturya in final

Karnataka's Tanishka Kalbhairav settled for silver in the under-11 category following a 10-12, 8-11, 11-6, 10-12 defeat to West Bengal's Saturya Banerjee at the National Ranking Table Tennis tournament in Vadodara.

South India beats Income Tax

South India FC beat Income Tax FC 2-1 in the BDFA A-division league here on Wednesday.

The results: A-div: South India FC 2 (Nandha Kumar Antharaj 18, Varneireng Kom 73) bt Income Tax FC 1 (Ankit Kumar 80+2).
B-div: Royals FC 0 drew with Roots FS 0; Md. Sporting FC 3 (Nivarutti Pavanoji 17, Pavan Desai 32, Iklas Nizami 52) bt Al Fateh FC 0.

Narrow win for Bombers

Bombers HC edged Hassan HC 3-2 in the KSHA A-division league here on Wednesday.

The result: Bombers HC 3 (Jithees 1, Shafas 34, Uthappa 47) bt Hassan HC 2 (Gagan 8, Shrikanth 48).

Troy Cooley hired as women team's bowling coach

Press Trust of India
EAST LONDON

Australian Troy Cooley has been roped in as Indian women cricket team's bowling coach ahead of the tri-series and the T20 World Cup to be held here.

The 57-year-old has served as the fast bowling coach at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru since 2021 and was recently with the victorious India A team that toured Bangladesh.

"We've already worked with him at the NCA and almost every bowler knows him well," said skipper Harmanpreet Kaur.